



REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA

Ministry of Mines & Energy

P. O. Box 10-9024

1000 Monrovia 10 LIBERIA, WEST AFRICA

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

(INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANCY SERVICE)

Consultant service to develop ASM user friendly handbook and user friendly graphics (ASM)

EOI N0: MME/EPA/UNDP/REOI/001/20/21

October 19, 2020

Introduction

The United Nations Development Programs (UNDP) in collaboration and consultation with relevant Government of Liberia (GoL) Ministries Agencies and Commissions (MAC) has developed new Energy & Environment program document; which will be implemented over a period of 5 years, commencing January 2020 up to December 2024.

The program will be executed under the UNDP National Implementation Modality (NIM), consistent with its Standard Basic Assistance Agreement (SBAA) between UNDP and GoL, and the Country Programme. As part of implementation of the five years program, the Government of Liberia and the UNDP have planned to intervene in the environmental and human rights issues in the artisanal mining sector.

Background

After 14-year civil conflict, there has been limited investments across the country thus constraining income and livelihoods of many within the population, especially war affected youth in rural areas and economically deprived young people in urban settlements who have been pressured to migrate in rural areas in search of income and livelihood. The artisanal mining sector (ASM) of Liberia has attracted both local and foreign miners owing to the limited barriers to entry in the sector, including limited expertise and equipment utilized and the income and livelihood the sector offers. The sector is said to be a major source of livelihood for more than 100,000 gold and diamond miners in Liberia who depend on the sector for income (World Bank, 2012). Notwithstanding, the sector for the most part has been under-regulated thus undermining its huge potential to support social economic growth and livelihood of rural communities with little or no access to basic services and income generating activities.

The lack of governance and regulation in the sector has rendered it a source of environmental pollution, conflict and abuse of rights of women and children (Regulatory Roadmap for the Artisanal Mining Sector of Liberia-2016)

Due to the current exorbitant cost of artisanal mining licenses (\$150 license fee, \$150 survey fee and \$50 clearance fee), many persons have preferred to operate illegally, sometimes in protected areas where those activities are not allowed. Other challenges faced by the artisanal miners include: Limited knowledge about Mining and Environmental Laws and existing human rights, as well as gender issues; Complex and often convoluted supply-chains which often make the operators susceptible to exploitation; lack of access to credit; low level of knowledge among miners about commodities (gold and diamond) value and pricing and absence of regulations to ensure that commodities are produced and sold legally.

Consequently, miners operate in an environment of crude, illegal and nonproductive work activities, often resulting in various negative health, safety, security, environmental and socio-economic impacts that affect the miners, environment and host communities. Mitigating these impacts would require building the capacity of the miners and host communities so that they become knowledgeable of the enforceable regulations in place as well as the roles of the regulatory authorities' agencies (Ministry of Mines and Energy, Environmental Protection Agency, the Forest Development Authority); so that they can take concrete measures in observing safeguards and participate in environmental monitoring. Developing a Liberian user friendly ASM handbook will ensure that communities, who are the direct recipients of the negative environmental and social impacts of ASM activities, have the capacity to participate in the governance of the sector, including monitoring. Development of the handbook and follow up training and awareness will enhance participatory monitoring of the ASM sector.

The overall objectives of this initiative is to support the development of a simple English (user-friendly) training handbook for artisanal miners and mining host communities to provide them with much needed skills and knowledge. It will also empower miners to be aware of their rights, roles and responsibilities, and create a triple win system whereby the immense potential of the ASM sector to generate socio-economic benefits for miners, mining communities, and the Government of Liberia is harnessed.

The Ministry of Mines and Energy now invites qualified Consultants to indicate their interest in providing the services to lead the production and develop of ASM user friendly Handbook and user-Friendly Graphics that promotes sustainable ASM. Interested Consultants must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform similar services, experience, methodology and by submitting other relevant information. Consultants must also provide description of work experience both general and on similar assignments. Specific experience on World Bank funded projects will be an added advantage.

A National Consultant will be selected in accordance with the procedures set out in the Public Procurement and Concession Commission Act as restated in 2010 and operating Guidelines.

Qualification Requirement(s)

- PhD or Post Graduate university degree (M.Sc.) preferentially in Geology, Mining, Engineering, Natural Resource.

Submission and Deadline

Sealed Expressions of interest (EOI) must be delivered in hard copy to the address below and labelled “**Expression of Interest**” (Ref.: **EOI N0: MME/EPA/UNDP/REOI/001/20/21**) not later than **Monday, October 26, 2020 at 3:00 PM**. Late EOI will be rejected and returned to consultant unopened.

Interested Consultant may obtain further information detailing Terms of Reference (TOR) at the below address during office hours from **8:00 AM to 2:00 PM** on week days (Monday – Fridays) before the EOI submission deadline.

This REOI is published on the following websites: **mme.gov.lr, ppcc.gov.lr, emansion.gov.lr, and epa.gov.lr** for wider access/convenience.

The referred address is:

**The Procurement Director
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1000 Monrovia 10Liberia, West Africa**

Signed: _____


James T. Snowea
DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT
Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME)

Approved: _____

 19/oct/2020
Hon. Alexander Blptey Scere
DEPUTY MINISTER FOR ADMINISTRATION
Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME)

