

# **REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (CONSULTING SERVICES – INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT SELECTION)**

## **Saint Vincent and the Grenadines OECS Regional Health Project**

Loan No./Credit No./ Grant No.: (168539)

**Assignment Title: Consultancy Accreditation Process of the National Laboratories  
and Laboratory Quality Management System**

**Reference No. (as per Procurement Plan): SVGRHP-C-IC-13**

The Government of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the OECS Regional Health Project and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services.

The consulting services (“the Services”) include delivering technical support services towards the achievement of laboratory accreditation of the MCMH Laboratory, based on the ISO 15189:2022 international standard, and the current national legislation Licensing and Certification programme, being mindful of the National Laboratory Act, progress already made, opportunities for Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI), regional collaborations, and compliance to the IHR. The estimated duration is eight (8) months.

The detailed Terms of Reference (TOR) for the assignment can be found at the following website: <https://procurement.gov.vc/eprocure/index.php/current-bids>

The **Economic Planning Division** now invites eligible consulting firms (“Consultants”) to indicate their interest in providing the Services. Interested Consultants should provide information demonstrating they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services. The shortlisting criteria are:

### **Qualification & Experience**

- Minimum – master’s in medical laboratory science, Laboratory Science, or other related technical fields.
- Minimum of ten (10) years’ experience in providing assistance to medical laboratories in developing countries, to prepare for certification, licensing, and accreditation against the ISO 15189 Standard.
- Demonstrated understanding of the requirements of the updated ISO15189:2022 Standard.
- Minimum of seven (7) years specific experience in Medical Laboratory Quality Systems implementation.

- Minimum of five (5) years of experience in conducting ISO Quality Management System audits in preparation for certification.
- Minimum of five (5) years' experience in Continuous Quality Improvement Systems design and implementation in developing country laboratory environments, including in the Caribbean Region.
- Proven record of at least three (3) assignments related to the Laboratory Accreditation process or similar accreditation processes associated with ISO 15189 Standard.
- Demonstrated ability to provide the following expertise (assessing and updating policies, procedures, and guidelines) for the components of the accreditation process.
- Proven ability to engage (coordination and working) with national counterparts including laboratory management and staff, senior government officials at national and state levels, regional partners, and other key laboratory stakeholders.
- Be fluent (speaking and writing) in the English Language. Demonstrate excellent written and oral communication skills as stakeholder engagement, and training are critical to the execution of this consultancy.
- Be able to effectively engage with government agencies and health sector stakeholders as consultation is expected with a variety of stakeholders throughout the entire project cycle, from inception through closing.

The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to Section III, paragraphs, 3.14, 3.16, and 3.17 of the World Bank's "Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers" September 2023 ("Procurement Regulations"), setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.

A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the Individual Consultant Selection method set out in the Procurement Regulations.

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours *from* 0900 to 1400 hours.

Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below (in person, or by mail, or by e-mail) by 1600 hours (local SVG time) on **February 6, 2025**.

Director of Economic Planning

Attn: Recardo Frederick

Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning and Information Technology

1<sup>st</sup> Floor Administrative Centre

Tel: 784-457-1746 or 784-457-2182

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