

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

**Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Unleashing the Blue Economy of the Caribbean Project
Loan No./Credit No./ Grant No.:**

**Design of a 5 Year Seafood Sanitary and Quality Inspection Services
Development Plan**

SVGUBEC-C-IC-21

The Government of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Unleashing the Blue Economy of the Caribbean (UBEC) Project and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services.

The consulting services (“the Services”) include designing a five-(5)-Year Sanitary and Phytosanitary Standards (SPS) and seafood quality inspection service Action Plan for the fisheries sector and in line with the 2018 St. Vincent and the Grenadines Fisheries and Aquaculture Policy which calls for the development of a multi-year food sanitary and quality inspection services development plan¹ across government agencies, aiming to restore full export certification and introduce cost-recovery for established businesses on the basis of the user pay principle. The UBEC project provides an opportunity to progress this initiative as a key component of the UBEC Project is the development of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Standards (SPS) and implementing measures for increased production of high quality of seafood for both domestic and export markets. Additionally, activities proposed under UBEC include: increasing food safety awareness amongst consumers; meeting regulatory demands from importing countries; increased access to and use of technologies and associated training, amongst others.

The consultant will be engaged for a period of twelve (12) months anticipating commencement in May, 2025.

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 within the Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning and Information Technology now invites eligible consulting firms (“Consultants”) to indicate their interest in providing the Services. Interested Consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services.

¹ Action plan

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS

The individual consultant should have the following qualifications and experience:

Educational Background:

A relevant advanced degree in fisheries, marine biology, food science, agricultural economics, or a related field.

Professional Experience:

- Minimum of 10 years of professional experience in the seafood industry, quality control, and/or sanitary inspection services.
- Previous experience working in the Caribbean region, preferably with knowledge of SVG's seafood industry.

Technical Expertise:

- In-depth knowledge of seafood processing, handling, and distribution.
- Familiarity with international and regional standards and regulations related to seafood safety and quality.

Regulatory Compliance:

- Experience in interpreting and applying national and international regulations related to seafood safety and quality, including but not limited to HACCP, Codex Alimentarius, and relevant EU regulations.
- Legal expertise to identify potential legal and regulatory issues.

Food Safety and Sanitary Standards:

- Qualifications in food science, food safety, or a related field to assess and ensure compliance with sanitary and hygienic standards in fish processing.

Regulatory Compliance:

- Knowledge of local, national, and international fisheries regulations to assess and ensure compliance.

Project Management:

- Demonstrated ability to design and implement long-term development plans.
- Proven project management skills, including the ability to coordinate and collaborate with multiple stakeholders.

Risk Assessment and Management:

- Ability to conduct risk assessments related to seafood safety and quality.
- Experience in developing risk management strategies for the seafood industry.

Stakeholder Engagement:

- Strong interpersonal skills and experience in engaging with government agencies, private sector stakeholders, and international organizations.

Data Analysis and Research Skills:

- Proficiency in data analysis and research methodologies relevant to the seafood industry.
- Ability to gather and analyze data to inform the development of the inspection services plan.

Communication Skills:

- Strong written and verbal communication skills to prepare comprehensive reports and communicate findings and recommendations effectively.
- Excellent written and oral communication skills.
- Ability to prepare comprehensive reports, policy documents, and strategic plans.

Capacity Building:

- Experience in developing and implementing training programs for seafood industry professionals.
- Ability to transfer knowledge effectively to local stakeholders.

Community and Stakeholder Engagement:

- Strong interpersonal skills to engage with local communities, fishers, and other stakeholders.
- Experience in conducting interviews and surveys to gather input from relevant parties.

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 method** set out in the Procurement Regulations.

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours 9:00 to 15:30 *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 **February 14, 2025**

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