**Expression of Interest**

**\* General info**

**Country of project** Republic of Lebanon

**Funding source** UN-International Fund for Agricultural Development.

**Project** Hilly Areas Sustainable Agriculture Development (HASAD)

**Title** Consulting Services to provide technical assistance

**Business Sector** Agriculture/Rural Development

**Loan/Credit/Grant No.** IFAD LOAN No 1195 LB

**Contract/Bid No.**

**Deadline October 13th 2015**

**\* Content**

Request for Expressions of Interest

1. The Government of Lebanon has received a LOAN from the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and intends to apply part of the proceeds of this LOAN to payments under HASAD Project for the Establishment and Management of two Farmer Service Centers (FSC) in Akkar and Baalbeck –Hermel areas.
2. A company/consulting firm is to be contracted to provide technical assistance/capacity building to the two FSC’s, in the areas of the two project locations Akkar-Danieh and Baalbeck-Hermel.
3. Each FSC is expected to provide support to farmers in the respective regions. Moreover, the FSC is expected to offer a comprehensive array of services to smaller holders-farmers, farmer groups and their associations by assisting them in achieving their agricultural business growth and improve their household income and reduce poverty.
4. The cost of core activities for setting up, managing and monitoring the FSC will be financed by HASAD project on a declining basis. The contract will be for 2 years, subject to satisfactory performance over specified milestones and time frame.
5. The Green Plan, the implementing agency of HASAD Project, now invites eligible companies/consulting firms to indicate their interest in providing the services. Interested companies/consulting firms must provide brief and yet sufficient information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the services. The shortlisting criteria are:
	1. Relevant technical and managerial capabilities;
	2. Sound experience (national and international) in similar projects implementation in supporting farmers in rural areas, mainly in developing sound business based small –medium enterprises;
	3. Annual average expenditure for the past three years.
	4. Knowledge of the Lebanese rural and farming situation will be an advantage;
	5. Good reputation of integrity and impartiality rooted in independence from third parties
6. The attention of interested companies/consulting firms is drawn to IFAD’s Project Procurement Guidelines 2010, and Module L6 of the IFAD’s Procurement Handbook 2015: General Evaluation Procedures for Consultancy Services under any development project or programme governed by an IFAD financing agreement.
7. The company/ consulting firm will be selected on a competitive basis in accordance with Quality and Cost-Based Selection (QCBS) set out in IFAD’s Procurement Guidelines and Handbook 2015.
8. Expressions of interest must be delivered to the address below by 13th of October, 2015

**\* Contact Info**

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