

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR SEED PROCUREMENT

PQ: TAAT/PSU/SS/DF/SIERRA LEONE/2021/010

I. INTRODUCTION

The Africa Rice Center (AfricaRice) is an association of African member states and member of the CGIAR System Organization. Its mission is to contribute to poverty alleviation and food security through partnership interventions with relevant stakeholders including small to medium scale enterprises (SMEs) and millers. Through the TAAT (Technologies for African Agricultural Transformation) Rice Compact Project among others, AfricaRice has been working with partners in the private sector to disseminate improved rice technologies and innovations such as quality seeds of improved varieties for the benefit of smallholders and entrepreneurs. In this regard, through the TAAT Rice Compact Project, AfricaRice would like pre-qualify seed enterprises who will be willing to work with the Organization to supply certified seeds to Sierra Leone.

In Sierra Leone, 775,000 MT of milled rice (1,216,980 MT of paddy) is produced on 800,000 Ha of land with an average yield of 1.54 MT/Ha. In order to improve rice productivity, the use of improved seeds, accompanying inputs (particularly fertilizer) and Good Agricultural Productivity is essential. The quantity of certified seeds to cover entire area (800,000 ha) under rice cultivation is estimated at 40,000ha (at a seeding rate of 50kg/ha).

The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and partners have requested AfricaRice to support the Ministry to procure these seeds for planting by farmers in the 2021 cropping season. AfricaRice is therefore launching a competitive call to select pre-qualified seed enterprises with the requisite qualification and experience in marketing certified seed across national borders that are interested in the supply of these seeds. Preferably, these should be members of the COSEM-Riz (Consortium of Seed Enterprises and Millers) who have been pre-qualified through an Expression of Interest (EOI) process carried out by AfricaRice.

II. OBJECT

The Purpose of this call is to select qualified seed enterprises that are interested in the supply of rice seeds and who have the requisite experience and capacity in the producing and supply of quality certified seeds as well as in marketing certified seed across borders. **The prequalified enterprises are expected to deliver: (i) 131MT of quality certified seeds, comprising 66MT of NERICA L19 Sub 1 and 65MT of ORYLUX 6 and (ii) 30MT of quality foundation seeds comprising 20MT of NERICA L19 Sub 1 and 10MT of ORYLUX 6 to Sierra Leone by 07th April 2021.**

III. CRITERIA FOR SELECTION

Interested SMEs are required to:

1. Provide a completed vendor response form (Annexe1); dated, signed; stamped with the seal of company,
2. Provide a certificate of registration as a certified seed producer in his/her country
3. Show proof (pictures of facilities and documents) to produce, process, store and transport seeds across borders,
4. Show proof of certification with high quality standards in conformity with the regional harmonized regulation,
5. Demonstrate experience in cross-border trade and the knowledge of the ECOWAS protocols for marketing rice certified seed across borders,
6. Demonstrate willingness to actively work with AfricaRice for assurance of quality, variety conformity and quantity before departure and at arrival,
7. Members of the Consortium of Seed Enterprises and Millers (COSEM-Riz), already pre-qualified through due procurement process, are strongly encouraged to respond to this Call.

IV. SUBMISSION OF EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Eligible enterprises who meet the qualification criteria listed above are requested to send their Expression of interest by email to A.Quotation@cgiar.org no later than **Deadline submissions is Monday 15th March 2021 at 4:00pm** Abidjan local time, by indicating clearly in the subject of the email. The Expression of Interest may be submitted by email to A.Quotation@cgiar.org with the subject line indicating:

Response PRE-QUALIFICATION OF SEED ENTERPRISES AND MILLERS SIERRA LEONE

V. REQUEST FOR CLARIFICATION

Prospective seed enterprises may request clarification of any article of the Pre-qualification no later than five (05) days prior to the submission date. Any request for clarification must be sent in writing via courier or through electronic means to A.Quotation@cgiar.org . AfricaRice will respond in writing, transmitted by electronic means and will transmit copies of the response (including an explanation of the query but without identifying the source of inquiry) to all prospective seed producers who have provided confirmation of their intention to submit an Expression of Interest.

Kolade OLATIFEDE
Director of Finance

ANNEXE 1: VENDOR RESPONSE FORM

PRE-QUALIFICATION OF SEED ENTERPRISES AND MILLERS

TO: A.Quotation@cgiar.org

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Closing date: is Monday 15th March 2021 at 4:00pm
Abidjan local time

To be completed by the Vendor

COMPANY'S INFORMATION	
Legal company name	
Company contact	
Address	
City	
Country	
Telephone Number	
Email address	
Number of years of experience	
Company registration documents (please attach a copy)	
Other (specify)	

Signature ----- Date -----

Name & Title -----