

INTERNATIONAL TRADE CENTRE (ITC)

Upcoming Business Opportunity Notice

CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)

Important: The purpose of this call for Expression of Interest (EOI) is to identify suitable Implementing Partners (IPs) who can potentially fulfil the requirements herein contained. The present call for EOI does not constitute an invitation to tender. Only suppliers/entities deemed qualified by ITC will be contacted for further cooperation.

Reference: Activity implementation for **Strengthening agribusiness resilience and competitiveness in Uganda – STAR project in Uganda**

Date of this Call for Expression of Interest (EOI): 31 August, 2022

Closing Date for Receipt of EOI at ITC/PS: 15 September, 2022

Terms of Reference (summary):

The International Trade Centre (ITC) is implementing a project funded by the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) titled '*Strengthening Agribusiness Resilience and Competitiveness in Uganda – STAR*'. The overall project objective is to contribute to Improved livelihoods of rural communities in Northern and North-Eastern Uganda. Its specific objective is to increase the resilience to natural disasters and the competitiveness of farming households and SMEs active in the cassava, shea, and oilseed value chains.

The project will strengthen natural disaster resilience for farming households and agri-businesses in domestic, regional, and international value chains. This will help to build their resilience and competitiveness, contributing to the SDG targets by promoting inclusive and sustainable economic growth, gender equality, combating climate change, and improving livelihoods and food security for women and men. Moreover, it will also focus on gender-responsive resilience to natural disasters for improved livelihoods.

The project is built around 4 outputs:

Output 1: Capacity of producers and SMEs to become more competitive and resilient to natural disaster risks increased

The output will be achieved by implementing the following activities:

Activity 1.1: Map out & mobilise beneficiaries (SMEs, cooperatives, rural households) to build their awareness on natural disaster resilience and competitiveness

Activity 1.2: Build gender-responsive capacity of producer groups & SMEs to develop & implement natural disaster risk reduction strategies and improve their competitiveness

Activity 1.3: Connect SMEs to financiers, technology providers, production inputs & services needed to implement natural disaster risk reduction & competitiveness measures

Activity 1.4: Connect producer groups & SMEs to national, regional, international markets

Output 2: Community based disaster risk management structures enhanced

The output will be achieved by implementing the following activities:

Activity 2.1: Build the managerial & operational capacity of local Disaster Risk Management committees

Activity 2.2: Support DRM committees to develop & implement annual risk reduction plans

Output 3: Service offering of BSOs and other service providers to build SME natural disaster risk resilience and competitiveness improved

The output will be achieved by implementing the following activities:

Activity 3.1: Build BSOs' & service providers' capacity to support SMEs & producers to increase their competitiveness & resilience to natural disasters

Activity 3.2: Advise BSOs on integrating services to support SMEs & producers to become resilient to natural disasters into their offering

Output 4: National strategies and policies to improve the natural disaster resilience of target agricultural value chains strengthened

The output will be achieved by implementing the following activities:

Activity 4.1: Create awareness & develop recommendations for policy makers on building gender-responsive resilience to natural disasters for improved livelihoods

Activity 4.2: Facilitate a multi-stakeholder platform to support cooperation & synergies across the government, national service providers & the private sector.

ITC seeks to partner with a local NGO to roll-out the selected activities. For this purpose, ITC will contract an Implementing Partner (IP) to jointly implement the activities on the ground, adapting ITC's methodologies to the regional circumstances, reaching out to local partners, and facilitating the implementation of activities on the ground.

Interested Implementing Partners must satisfy the following criteria for the specific action:

- A. Existing operations (field offices, technical and managerial staff, logistical and administrative set up) to coordinate project activities on the ground in the ten project's target districts (Abim, Agago, Kaabong, Karenga, Kitgum, Kotido, Lamwo, Lira, Oyam, and Pader) since a minimum of 10 years
- B. Established MoUs with mentioned districts governments and established relationships with Disaster Risk Management Committees in Uganda.
- C. Affiliation with a Korean Non-Governmental Organization.
- D. Accountability: proven record of legal and financial due diligence and reporting capacities.
- E. Proven track record and credentials in managing large projects for international donors and multilateral organisations or other agencies, like the United Nations, the World Bank and/or similar organizations.
- F. Competence and experience in supporting the development of commercially operating rural SMEs, DRM committees and cooperatives for value addition, business expansion and market access.
- G. Capability to include gender and sustainability dimension into the delivered results.

ITC invites interested Implementing Partners (companies/organizations) to forward their EOI by fax or by email before the closing date to:

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ITC reserves the right to change or cancel this requirement at any time during the EOI and/or solicitation process.

Please note that only those Implementing Partners considered qualified by ITC for this project will be invited to provide further information for consideration.

For any furtr information on ITC, please consult our website: www.intracen.org