



**AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT  
BANK GROUP**



**MANO RIVER UNION  
UNION DU FLEUVE MANO**

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**REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST  
A CONSULTING FIRM TO TRAIN AND EQUIP WOMEN WHO ARE  
INVOLVED IN CROSS-BORDER TRADE IN THE THREE VALUE CHAINS IN  
THE TWO PROJECT COMMUNITIES AS A WAY OF STRENGTHENING  
CAPACITY FOR INCREASED BUSINESS PERFORMANCE AND  
SUBSEQUENTLY, IMPROVED LIVELIHOODS**

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**COUNTRIES:** Sierra Leone and Liberia

**Sector:** Gender Equality

**Mode of Financing:** Grant

**Project ID:** P-Z1-ID0-009

**Grant No:** 5900155016801

**Issued Date:** 24 October 2023

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The Mano River Union Secretariat has received a grant from the African Development Fund to implement the project to Build Inclusive Business Ecosystems for Stabilization and Transformation (BI-BEST) in the Mano River Union (MRU) and intends to apply part of the agreed amount for this grant to payments under the contract for the recruitment of a consultant to train and equip women who are involved in cross-border trade in the three value chains in the two project communities as a way of strengthening capacity for increased business performance and subsequently, improved livelihoods.

The particular services required from the Consulting Firms under the assignment include, but not limited:

- Develop skills of WCBTs through training and mentorship/peer-to-peer support;
- Train WCBTs on cooperative development to strength their networks and associations;
- Improve access to finance through market facilitation with Banks and Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLAs).

The assignment will be undertaken twelve (12) months.

The Mano River Union Secretariat is therefore inviting public and private entities, civil society organizations (CSOs), Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), International Organizations, associations, foundations or any structure with a legal mandate to operate in both Sierra Leone and Liberia, and with required expertise in developing and providing entrepreneurship development support to women entrepreneurs and cross border traders using a sectoral approach to express their interest. The Mano River Union Secretariat requires that interested Consulting Firms shall provide information on their qualifications and experience (cover letter, supporting documents referencing similar services and showing demonstrated experience in similar assignments, etc.) to undertake this Assignment.

Eligibility criteria, establishment of the short-list and the selection procedure shall be in accordance with the African Development Bank's "Procurement Policy and Methodology for Bank Group funded Operations" (BPM), dated 2015, which is available on the Bank's website at <http://www.afdb.org>. MRU is under no obligation to shortlist any consultant who expresses interest.

Interested Consulting Firms may query or obtain further information from the email addresses provided below during the Office's working hours between 09:00 to 17:00 hours GMT.

Expressions of interest must be delivered to the address below by November 17, 2023.

Sierra Leone time and mention **"CAPACITY BUILDING OF THE WOMEN CROSS-BORDER"**

**Attention:**

**Mano River Union Secretariat**  
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**Rep. of Sierra Leone**  
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