

Government of Vanuatu
Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources
Vanuatu Affordable and Resilient Settlements Project

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (REOI)

Individual Selection of Consultant

Country: Government of Vanuatu
Name of the Project: Vanuatu Affordable and Resilient Settlements Project
Consulting Service: **Media & Communications Expert**
Individual/Firm: Individual
Duty Station: PMU, Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources, Port Vila, Vanuatu
Date of Publication 27th January, 2023
Deadline for submission: 15th February, 2023; 11:00 A.M
Reference Number: VU-MLNR-320699-CS-INDV

1. BACKGROUND OF THE PROJECT

A long-term vision of the Government of Vanuatu (GoV) is to provide potable water, sanitation, roads, drainage and electricity to low-income households for the largest number of citizens. To address this, the International Development Agency of the World Bank Group is supporting the GoV with the Vanuatu Affordable and Resilient Settlements Project (VARs). Aims of the Project include developing a phased, 10-year, risk-informed Land Development and Investment Strategy (LDIS) for the Greater Port Vila area with an estimated population of 114,000 people, almost 40 percent of the country's population. VARs also will support GoV to prepare a five-year action plan to implement phased settlement upgrading (SURP) of the 23 existing informal settlements in the Greater Port Vila area. To build towards these two interdependent medium-term platforms, the Project will implement on-the ground selected investments and associated institutional, and policy strengthening measures to pilot and set policy precedents for new land development and in situ settlement upgrading. This includes: (a) basic area upgrading of four informal settlements (Ohlen Mataso, Seaside, Tokyo and portion of Anamburu); (b) developing a 10 ha 'sites-and-services' (greenfield) lower-middle income residential area subdivision; (c) expansion or rehabilitation (as required) of off-site infrastructure focusing on flood management and mitigation; and (d) implementing measures for transformative institutional capacity strengthening of responsible Government of Vanuatu and sub-national agencies for planning, financing, and implementing the 10-year LDIS and 5-year SURP in partnerships with communities and the private sector.

The Project is being implemented by the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources (MoLNR), supported by the Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA), Ministry of Infrastructure and Public Utilities (MIPU), the Department of Environmental Protection and Conservation, Shefa Provincial Council, and Port Vila City Council.

The overall objective of the post is to support MoLNR and the Project Steering Committee to communicate and manage public understanding and improve the visibility of the 'Vanuatu Affordable and Resilient Settlements Project' VARs and contribute to longer term needs of the MoLNR regarding communications on resilient and affordable land development for urban residential use for low- and middle-income earners.

The Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources is seeking to use a portion of the Vanuatu Affordable and Resilient Settlements Project grant to finance the recruitment of a Media & Communications Expert.

2. SCOPE OF WORK AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Consultant will work closely with other PMU team members, staff from MoLNR, and other Project team members. The Consultant among others will be responsible for:

- Consult with all land development key stakeholders to formulate a media and communication strategy and workplan building on the draft communications and engagement prepared as part of project preparation (see excerpts provided in Annex 1-2, TOR A7). The scope of the media and communication plan will cover local, national and international audiences. The workplan should identify agreed monthly targets such as number of articles prepared for press release (newspaper, radio, television), stories prepared for publication, video releases, website content refreshes, Facebook updates, and so on.
- Implement the Steering Committee-approved media and communication workplan and other media/communication tasks. This will include collecting stories and photographs from field visits, interviews with communities, private sector and civil society members and project specialist consultants. Stories and articles will be in English and Bislama (the latter working with other PMU team members and MoLNR media staff to verify translations, especially of technical terms).
- Support MoLNR and PMU to accurately publicize, targeted messages at the start up and throughout the life of the project and to monitor and respond to inaccurate or misleading information circulating around the project activities.
- Create and sustain mutually respectful relationships and partnerships with local and global media institutions with the aim of promoting awareness of the Project, its progress and achievements, and affordable and resilient urban land development in general.
- Prepare and conduct in-house or external communication training to local media and agency communications units.
- As requested, assist the PMU Project Manager to handle media inquiries from national and international journalists, liaise with internal Project stakeholders in relation to media responses, and coordinate drafting of responses to journalists.

S/he will undertake all the other specific tasks detailed in the **Terms of Reference** (TOR) that can be found at this [link](https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/qhzf3vtyukejeof554nga/h?dl=0&rlkey=twbncg7j2xnrswokn9p9pxit8) or (<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/qhzf3vtyukejeof554nga/h?dl=0&rlkey=twbncg7j2xnrswokn9p9pxit8>)

In addition, consultants are required to use a **template provided by VARS** in preparing their applications. The template can be found at the same link above.

3) SELECTION CRITERIA

The selection shall be based on qualification, experience and skills of the candidate and followed by an interview. The Media & Communications Expert will possess the following qualifications:

- Tertiary qualification (degree) from a recognized institution in a relevant media, communications, marketing, or language discipline
- At least two (2) years of work experience in media/communications roles
- Demonstrated skills in working in a collaborative manner with and teaching/developing counterpart staff
- Language skills: (a) Fluency and the ability to communicate effectively verbally and in writing in English and Bislama is required; and (b) working knowledge of French is an advantage.

- Communication skills: Excellent professional oral and written communication skills, including face-to-face with Government officials, communities and the private sector.

3. REPORTING

The Consultant will report to the Project Manager-VARS Project.

4. DURATION OF ASSIGNMENT:

The Consultant will initially be recruited for two (2) years, with a possible extension subject to performance appraisal. It is anticipated the Consultant will commence by April 2023 on a full-time basis. A Time-Based Contract will be signed under which both parties (MoLNR and the Consultant) will agree on a monthly rate.

The position would be subject to a probationary period of sixty (60) days, with a performance review by MoLNR to determine whether the Consultant will continue to be engaged beyond the probationary period.

5. DUTY STATION

The Media & Communications Expert will be based in the Project Management Unit, Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources, Port Vila, Vanuatu. The consultant may be required to travel to outer islands or other countries.

The Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources now invites eligible Individual Consultants to indicate their interest in providing the above-mentioned services. Interested consultants must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the Services and furnish the Curriculum Vitae (CV).

6. SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to section III, para 3.14,3.16 & 3.17 of the World Bank's *Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers: Procurement in Investment Projects Financing Goods, Works, Non -Consulting and Consulting Services, July 2016, revised November 2017 August 2018 and November 2020* ("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 World Bank Procurement Regulations.

Interested applicants may obtain further information including a detailed Terms of Reference from the Ministry in person or by e-mail to the address given below during office hours from 8.00 a.m.– 5.00 p.m. Monday to Friday.

Deadline: Expressions of interest and CV must be delivered to the address below by hand, mail, courier or email on or before **15th February 2023 at 11:00A.M Vanuatu Time.**

6.1: Address:

The Project Manager
Vanuatu Affordable and Resilient Settlements Project
Government of Vanuatu
George Pompidou Complex, Port Vila
Email Address: procurement.varsproject@gmail.com
with copies to: lawrie@csgengineering.com.au;

Submit your application with the following as your subject: **Media & Communications Expert - VU-MLNR-320699-CS-INDV**