

Procurement Advisor Consultant

Introduction

Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) is a United States government-owned corporation responsible for the stewardship of the Millennium Challenge Account (MCA). MCC works with developing countries to promote sustainable economic growth to reduce poverty. Countries that receive MCA assistance are responsible for identifying the greatest barriers to their own development, ensuring civil society participation, and developing an MCA program. Each MCA country enters into a “Compact” (grant) with MCC that includes a multi-year plan for achieving development objectives and identifies the responsibilities of each partner in achieving those objectives.

Each Compact includes an element outlining the mechanisms proposed to manage MCC funds, account and report for their use, procure goods, works and services, and ensure that funds are used for the purposes intended. The Fiscal Accountability, Program Procurement Policy (PPP) team is responsible for the due diligence, monitoring, and implementation of the procurement mechanisms in each eligible country. PPP works closely with and provides oversight to in-country MCA counterparts (MCA Entity) to ensure that procurements funded under the Compact are initiated and administered in a fair, open, and transparent manner in compliance with the MCC Program Procurement Guidelines (PPG). These guidelines have been adapted from The World Bank guidelines with some significant modifications and are posted on the MCC website (www.mcc.gov).

Procurements funded under the MCC Compact are managed by one or more Procurement Agents (PA) serving the MCA Entity. Each PA may be a government or an independent entity and works closely with the MCA Entity to ensure that procurements are conducted in compliance with MCC PPG.

MCC is currently reviewing its PPG with the goal to accelerate implementation, improve risk management, and strengthen country ownership during implementation.

Scope of Work

The PPP Office is currently seeking an individual consultant to serve as an intermittent Procurement Advisor in its Washington, D.C. headquarters. The Procurement Advisor is required to be a seasoned procurement professional who will work under the guidance of the Senior Director, PPP, as a member of the MCC Compact Implementation Team to review and update the MCC PPG.

Based in Washington D.C, the Procurement Advisor is expected to work on the following tasks:

- Review the MCC PPG to familiarize with the principles, rules and procedures which will govern the conduct and administration of the procurement of the goods, works and consultant services that need to be acquired to implement the Projects under the Compact.
- Participate as a member of the team in the review and revision of the MCC PPG to insure comprehensive and complete compliance with MCC's Implementation Model with the goal toward accelerating implementation, improving risk management and strengthening country ownership during implementation.
- Serve as the primary Point of Contact (POC) for MCC PPG Update
- Participate in discussions leading to the revision of the PPG
- Update the MCC PPG for final review and approval
- Work and think creatively in a fast paced, multicultural environment to meet an aggressive deadline and the goal to accelerate implementation while improving risk management

Candidates should be fully proficient in international best practices in procurement, and related subjects. This understanding could be gained through working on projects funded through bilateral (USAID, etc.) or multilateral (World Bank, ADB, IADB, UN. etc.) agencies, either on the side of the donor or as a supplier to these agencies. Understanding of the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) is also desirable.

Candidates will be selected by MCC and contracted through a third party who will handle pay-rolling and administration. The initial task is as described above with a period of performance of sixty (60) days, during a base period of twelve months with four one year options for additional consulting services.

There is no commitment to a minimum or maximum amount of work implied by submitting an application nor will there be a guaranteed quantity of work implied by being accepted by the MCC.

Evaluation Criteria

The selection process will focus on the following aspects of the candidate:

- Procurement focused experience especially in developing countries;
- Experience and familiarity with the Procurement Guidelines and Standard Bidding Documents of the World Bank and other multilateral organizations;
- Demonstrated experience working on international grant or loan programs and projects (either as a supplier or buyer of goods and services);
- Excellent communication skills with ability to address orally and in writing difficult issues;
- Immediate availability to undertake the assignment

How to Apply

Interested parties should submit by email to recruitment@mcc.gov the following package: 1) Curriculum Vitae and 2) a brief cover letter that addresses all Evaluation Criteria as listed in this advertisement and provides the following information: three professional references, proposed hourly rate, salary information/hourly rates for the past three (3) years, and availability over the next two months. Please include "Procurement Advisor Fiscal Accountability" in the subject line of your email. The closing date of this announcement is May 12, 2008.