

## PROCUREMENT NOTICE

### ZAMBIA, GAMBIA, VANUATU, SOLOMON ISLANDS

#### TRADE ADVOCACY FUND – SERVICE PROVIDER DATABASE

The Trade Advocacy Fund (TAF) is an initiative funded by the Department for International Development and is designed to help developing countries defend their interests in international trade talks and disputes. Crown Agents and Saana Consulting, in association with IOD-PARC, have been appointed as the Fund Manager with the responsibility for the delivery of TAF.

The Goal of TAF is that international trade agreements reflect the interests of the poorest countries. Its Purpose is to help the Least Developed Countries (LDC) and Low Income Countries (LIC) and their member institutions such as Regional Economic Communities (RECs) participate more effectively in international trade negotiations and trade disputes.

TAF will support this outcome by providing access to high quality analysis and advice; training and development for negotiators; and resources to sustain their participation in trade negotiations. This will be achieved by contracting the services of third party service providers. Services will be of a specialised nature and high quality will be paramount.

The Fund Manager has recently agreed to provide grants to the following Beneficiaries:

#### **1) Ministry of Foreign Affairs and External Trade, Solomon Islands**

Objective: To enable the effective participation of Solomon Islands delegations in regional and international trade negotiations.

Scope of the Services:

- Cost Benefit Analysis of concluding an interim or comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement with the European Union;
- Development of a Trade Negotiations Framework;
- Trade Negotiation Skills Workshop;
- Building Capacity for Trade Analysis.

#### **2) Ministry of Trade, Vanuatu**

Objective: To enable the effective participation of the Vanuatuan trade negotiators in multilateral, regional and bilateral trade negotiations.

Scope of the Services:

- Development of a WTO negotiating and membership strategy;
- Services Negotiation strategy for PACER Plus and MSG regional agreements;
- Trade Negotiations Skills Workshop;
- Analysis of feasibility of bilateral trade negotiations with New Caledonia.

#### **3) Ministry of Trade, Industry, Regional Integration and Employment (MTRE), The Gambia**

Objective: Development of an effective trade negotiation mechanism that will ensure continuity and the steady development of institutional memory through an experienced cadre of trade experts and negotiators.

TAF is managed by Crown Agents and Saana Consulting, in association with IOD PARC

Scope of the Services:

- Design and delivery of a tailored capacity building and training programme to MTRE staff and other trade stakeholders;
- Define and develop a trade negotiations management strategy/mechanism for the MTRE.

**4) Ministry of Commerce, Trade and Industry, Zambia**

Objective: To enable Zambian officials to participate more effectively in trade negotiations at the regional level within COMESA and the Tripartite FTA, as well as with the EU.

Scope of the Services:

- Economic Analysis of EPA and Tripartite FTA and recommendations regarding the Ministry's negotiations options;
- Training of government officials and trade related stakeholders in negotiation and trade analysis skills.

On behalf of these Beneficiaries, the Fund Manager will engage suitably qualified Service Providers to deliver the necessary support. It is anticipated that the Requests for Proposals will be issued to qualified Service Providers in December 2012 with project start dates in February/March 2013.

Only Service Providers registered on the TAF Service Provider Database will be eligible for participating in TAF procurement activity.

**If your firm/organisation is currently registered on the TAF Service Provider Database**, and we consider you to be eligible for any of the above procurements, we will shortly be issuing you with a Request for Proposal.

**If your firm/organisation is not yet registered**, and wishes to be considered in the upcoming procurement activity, please submit your completed Pre-Qualification Questionnaire as soon as possible. The questionnaire can be obtained from [procurement@tradeadvocacyfund.com](mailto:procurement@tradeadvocacyfund.com).

Crown Agents is under no obligation to shortlist any consultant who expresses interest