**REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST**

**(CONSULTANT SERVICES – SELECTION OF FIRMS)**

**COUNTRY***:* UGANDA

**PROJECT NAME***:* STRENGTHENING INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY IN ISLAMIC MICROFINANCE IN UGANDA

**SECTOR**:ISLAMIC MICROFINANCE

1. consultancy services TO enhance the operations of the MSC and its client institutions, including TRAINING OF STAFF AND CLIENTS IN ISLAMIC MICROFINANCE, reviewing AND developing THE financing POLICIES, MANUALS, GUIDELINES AND improving THE SHARIAH RISK AND governance FRAMEWORK and Management information system.

Mode of Financing: GRANT

Financing NoUGA1046

The Microfinance Support Centre Ltd has received financing from the Islamic Development Bank towards the cost of the Strengthening Institutional Capacity in Islamic Finance in Uganda and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consultant services.

The services include*:* To assess how current operations and structures are serving Islamic microfinance products and services to end beneficiaries; review and develop the risk and shariah governance framework for the Islamic finance window of MSC; review existing Islamic finance products; evaluate the operations of MSc partner MFIs; Conduct a market needs assessment to inform the development of products and training packages for MSC and client institutions staff; develop tailored Islamic microfinance products and services based off the market assessment; recommend improvements to MSC and client institutions’ Islamic microfinance operations and products complete with the implementation road map and necessary manuals and documentation; develop a training plan that will be effectively executed within the scope of the assignment highlighting implications of covid-19 in executing the plan; evaluate the existing MIS to assist MSc enhance the Islamic finance module. The exercise will be implemented in three months.

The detailed Terms of Reference (TOR) for the assignment are attached to this request for expressions of interest.

The Microfinance Support Centre Ltd now invites eligible consulting firms (“Consultants”) to indicate their interest in providing the services. Interested Consultants must provide specific information which demonstrates that they are fully qualified to perform the services (brochures, description of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions, availability of appropriate skills among staff, etc.)

* The shortlisting criteria are:

The Lead Consultant should have the necessary competences and qualifications to undertake the assignment as indicated below:

1. Experience of at least eight (8) years conducting consultancy services
2. Experience in at least three (3) similar assignments in the Islamic finance/microfinance space
3. Experience of at least one (1) assignment working in developing countries
4. Presence of skills among staff in the areas of:
* Islamic Finance
* Market assessment, product development and review/development of policies and manuals
* Shariah and Risk Governance and Compliance
* Management Information System for Islamic Finance

The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to Paragraphs, 1.23, and 1.24 of the Guidelines for Procurement of Consultant Services under Islamic Development Bank Project Financing (the “Procurement Guidelines”), setting forth IsDB’s policy on conflict of interest.

Consultants may associate with other firms to enhance their qualifications, but should indicate clearly whether the association is in the form of a joint venture and/or a sub-consultancy. In the case of a joint venture, all the partners in the joint venture shall be jointly and severally liable for the entire contract, if selected. A consultant will be selected in accordance with the Consultants Qualification Selection method set out in the Procurement Guidelines.

Interested consultants may obtain further information at the address below during office hours; **8:30 to 16:30 hours**. Local time

Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below (in person, or by mail, or by e-mail by 24th March 2022.

The Microfinance Support Centre Ltd

Attention: Executive Director,

Nakasero Road, Plot 32, Kampala -Uganda

**Tel**: P O Box 33177; +256 312 263 779/+256 783 606049

**E-mail** : msc@msc.co.ug ; jtindimwebwa@msc.co.ug]

**Web site**: www.msc.co.ug