



Program for Advancing Youth Entrepreneurship and Investment: Project A: Liberian Youth Entrepreneurship and Investment Bank

GENERAL PROCUREMENT NOTICE

1. The Republic of Liberia has received an **African Development Fund (ADF)** financing with a total value of **UA 12 million** from the **African Development Bank (AfDB)** to finance the Liberian Youth Entrepreneurship and Investment Bank, out of the total UA 12 million, UA 0.9 million is budgeted for component 1, UA 8.65million is budgeted for component 2, UA 1.75 million is budgeted for component 3, and UA 0.7 million is budgeted for component 4.
2. The **Liberian Youth Entrepreneurship and Investment Bank's project** overall goal is to strengthen financial and non-financial business service to young women and men entrepreneurs in ways that ensure inclusion, decrease vulnerabilities, and prepare for resilience and long-term sustainability of service provision. Specifically, the project aims to (1) establish youth-dedicated institutions, modelled on the AfDB's Youth Entrepreneurship Investment Bank framework that will provide affordable development and financing solutions to Liberia's youth-led businesses; (2) Develop a Youth Entrepreneurship Investment Bank (YEIB), which is the soft infrastructure of the PAYEI ecosystem, delivering financial and business development services; and (3) Set up a Business Innovation and Development Center (BIDC) that is the hard infrastructure of the PAYEI ecosystem. The project will be implemented through the following components:

Component 1: Developing Youth Entrepreneurship Oversight

This component aims to enhance the youth entrepreneurship oversight bodies in charge of the provision of financial and non-financial services. The Central Bank of Liberia (CBL) is the main body to ensure stewardship for Financial Services (FS), as is the Small Business Administration (SBA) departments for the stewardship of Non-Financial Services (NFS). Strengthening these two bodies, are the target of this component.

Key Procurement Activities:

Consulting services for the development of investment regulation framework, Insurance Expert, Financial Inclusion Expert and technical assistance to aid management and coordination; Technical assistance to enhance the capacity of the Small Business Administration(SBA(Department at the Ministry of Commerce and Industry; Technical Assistance for the development of the roadmap of SBA; and Consulting services of a firm for the development of a digital platform to support Business Development Services Network.

Component 2: Establishing Youth-dedicated institutions

This component seeks to establish and operationalize the YEIB vehicles for the provision of financial and non-financial services. The vehicles include the following: **YEIB Capacity building Trust (Private Foundation)**- It will be established to (1) provide technical assistance to SMEs as part of effort to improve SMEs' technical, financial and managerial abilities and enhance their bankability and their investment readiness; **YEIB Investment Fund (LLC)** – The investment vehicle provides long-term (LT) finance to SMEs in the form of equity or quasi-equity instruments, to allow them to start, grow and scale their

businesses locally, regionally, and internationally; and **YEIB Risk Sharing Mechanism (LLC)** – The role of the Risk Sharing Mechanism (RSM) is to mitigate the risk of lending to MSMEs in the Liberian market. From a demand-side the RSM also serves to alleviate the collateral burden to the borrowers.

Key Procurement Activities:

Consulting services for a firm to support the establishment and operationalization of YEIB legal entities, and technical assistance for the development of governance system and processes for YEIB entities.

Component 3: Deploying YEIB services

This component will ensure the deployment of YEIB services to the Liberian market using a phased approach. There are three critical phases of deployment: (1) Setup phase during which the PIU, with support from technical and strategic expertise establishes the YEIB vehicles including registration and licensing processing, capitalization, setting up the board, middle & back office as well as corporate services and all related operational manual; (2) The kick-off phase which is when the YEIB starts operations, by outsourcing most functions while building internal capacity; and (3) the rollout phase starts at the end of the PAYEI, in which the YEIB is fully operational and managed by the YEIB Management Company.

Key Procurement Activities:

Recruitment and on-boarding of firms and financial institutions to serve as YEIB Delivery Partners (Fund Manager, Partner Financial Institutions, Enterprise Support Organizations, etc); Recruitment of YEIB Management Company (MANCO) Personnel; and Consulting services for technical assistance to build the capacity of YEIB MANCO personnel.

Component 4: Project Management

This component will support the coordination and management of activities of the project. This includes coordinating administrative, technical, communication, monitoring and evaluation, financial and E&S audits, financial management as well as procurement of goods and services. Additional activities include coordination and engagement with partners and government stakeholders as well as capacity enhancement of the entities established for the delivery of YEIB services.

Key Procurement Activities:

Consulting services for the conduct of annual audit, environmental and social studies, Project Coordinator, Procurement Specialist, Financial Management Officer; Accounting Clerk; Gender Specialist, Communication Expert, YEIB Technical Lead, Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist, Legal Consultant; Administrative Assistant; and Environmental and Social Safeguard Expert. Additional activities include procurement of office equipment, vehicles, office furniture, consulting firm for auditing services, repair and maintenance of vehicles, and provision of insurance services.

Procurement of goods, works and the acquisition of consultancy services financed under the project, will be carried out in accordance with the “Procurement Policy and Methodology for the African Development Bank Group Funded Operations” (BPM), dated October 2015. Bidding documents are expected to be available with effect from September 2024.

Interested bidders may obtain further information and should confirm their interest by contacting the Ministry of Commerce and Industry at the address provided below:

Attn.
Deputy Minister for Administration
Ministry of Commerce and Industry
Ministerial Complex, Congo Town
Monrovia, Liberia

Email: mewaseh76@gmail.com