GOVERNMENT OF ST VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING AND CAPACITY BUILDING OF INVEST SVG PROJECT CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR DEVELOPING A FIVE-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN AND TRAINING) <u>REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST</u>

The *Government of St Vincent and the Grenadines* has *applied for* financing from the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) towards the cost of *Institutional Strengthening and Capacity Building Support for Invest SVG's* project and intends to apply a portion of the proceeds of this financing to eligible payments under a contract for which this invitation is issued. Payments by CDB will be made only at the request of *the Government of St Vincent and the Grenadines (Invest SVG)* and upon approval by CDB, and will be subject in all respects to the terms and conditions of the Financing Agreement. The Financing Agreement prohibits withdrawal from the financing account for the purpose of any payment to persons or entities, or for any import of goods, if such payment or import, to the knowledge of CDB, is prohibited by a decision of the United Nations Security Council taken under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations. No party other than *the Government of St Vincent and the Grenadines* shall derive any rights from the Financing Agreement or have any claim to the proceeds of the Financing.

The National Investment Promotional Inc. (T/A as Invest SVG), the Executing Agency, now wishes to procure consultancy services for the developing of a five year strategic plan for Invest SVG and to conduct two, three day training workshops for the staff of Invest SVG in the areas of export development and investment promotion. "Institutional Strengthening and Capacity Building Support for Invest SVG".

The objective of the consultancy is to strengthen the capacity of Invest SVG to aid with the transformation into a worldclass Trade and Investment Promotion Organization. The specific objectives of the consultancy are; (1) the development of a 5-year Strategic Plan; and (2) the development and delivery of two (2) training workshops. Further details can be found in the attached Terms of Reference. The duration of the assignment is expected to be for a period of seven (7) months. *Invest SVG* now invites interested eligible consulting firms to submit Expressions of Interest for the provision of these consultancy services.

Consultants shall be eligible to participate if:

- (a) in the case of a body corporate, it is legally incorporated or otherwise organised in an eligible country, has its principal place of business in an eligible country and is more than 50 per cent beneficially owned by citizen(s) and/or bona fide resident(s) of eligible country(ies) or by a body(ies) corporate meeting these requirements;
- (b) in the case of unincorporated firms, the persons are citizens or bona fide residents of an eligible country; and

(c) in all cases, the consultant has no arrangement and undertakes not to make any arrangements, whereby any substantial part of the net profits or other tangible benefits of the contract will accrue or be paid to a person not a citizen or bona fide resident of an eligible country.

Eligible countries are member countries of CDB.

The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to paragraph 5.15 and 5.17 of Procurement Procedures for Projects Financed by CDB (2019), setting forth CDB's policy on conflict of interest for the selection of consultants.

In the assessment of submissions, consideration will be given to technical competence, qualifications and experience, local and regional experience on similar assignments, financial capability and existing commitments. Key Experts will not be evaluated at the shortlisting stage.

All information must be submitted in English. Further information may be obtained from the first address below between 8.00 am and 4.00 pm hours Monday to Friday.

Expressions of Interest must be received at the first email address below no later 4.00 pm on (Tuesday 14th July, 2020) and one electronic copy must be sent simultaneously to CDB at the second email address below. The email containing each submission should include the name and address of the applicant and subject shall be "Expression of Interest – Consultancy Services for Institutional Strengthening and Capacity Building Support for Invest SVG"

The selection method shall be Consultants' Qualifications selection. Therefore, following the assessment of submissions, firms shall be assessed and compared, and the best qualified and experienced firm shall be selected. Only the selected firm shall be asked to submit a combined technical and financial proposal and, if such proposal is responsive and acceptable, be invited to negotiate a contract. Invest SVG reserves the right to accept or reject late applications or to cancel the present invitation partially or in its entirety. It will not be bound to assign any reason for not selecting any applicant and will not defray any costs incurred by any applicant in the preparation and submission of Expressions of Interest

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2. procurement@caribank.org