



Priority Social Projects Program

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST CONSULTING SERVICES

Consulting Services: SME Diversification & Start-Up Support program
RISE program

Employer: Ministry of Finance and Planning

Beneficiary: Ministry of Youth Development & Sports

Reference No.: JOS-2026/006

Deadline: 24th of July 2026

Background

In February 2026, the Republic of Suriname has issued a Social Bond to finance eligible social expenditures and priority social projects.

The Ministry of Finance and Planning (Employer), for the benefit of the Ministry of Youth Development & Sports, intends to engage a qualified consultancy firm to implement the **RISE Program (Direction, Innovation, Skills, Entrepreneurship)**. The program empowers young entrepreneurs (18–35 years) through structured Business Development Services (BDS), sector-specific vocational training, mentoring, capital allocation, and aftercare.

The program targets:

- **Aspiring Entrepreneurs (Group 1, 350 participants):** Build a solid business foundation and receive start-up capital to formally launch their business.
- **Existing Entrepreneurs (Group 2, 350 participants):** Strengthen and expand their businesses and apply for financing of equipment or goods.

Scope of Services

The Consultant will provide professional services including:

- Recruitment and transparent selection of participants across five districts (Paramaribo, Wanica, Nickerie, Commewijne, Brokopondo).
- Delivery of general BDS training curricula (foundation for Group 1, advanced for Group 2).
- Implementation of sector-specific training modules (Lots 1–7) in eco-tourism, oil & gas services, recycling & circular economy, ICT & digital services, creative industry, healthcare & natural products, and hospitality & food.
- Capital allocation and financing support for approved business plans and expansion applications.
- Individual mentoring, coaching, and aftercare support.
- Welfare and logistics management (training facilities, meals, participant support).
- Monitoring, evaluation, and reporting (baseline, mid-term, final, and aftercare assessments).

The assignment covers **18 months**, structured into phases: program design, training delivery, capital allocation, and aftercare monitoring.

Consultant Qualifications

Interested firms must demonstrate:

- At least five (5) years of professional experience in entrepreneurship development and SME support.
- Proven expertise in Business Development Services (BDS), training, and mentoring of young entrepreneurs.
- Capacity to deliver sector-specific modules linked to international frameworks (UNWTO, ISO, UNEP, Google, AWS, UNESCO, WHO).
- Experience in managing funds and capital allocation procedures.
- Adequate technical and administrative capacity, including qualified personnel (Project Coordinator, BDS Trainers, Sector Specialists, Mentors, Financing Officer, M&E Specialist).
- Experience in similar assignments in Suriname, the Caribbean, or South America.
- Familiarity with donor-funded projects (ILO, IDB, EU, UNDP) is an advantage.
- Mandatory proficiency in Dutch and English (written and spoken).
- Knowledge of Suriname for effective communication.
- Familiarity with Suriname's economic context and growth sectors.

Selection Method

Consultants will be selected using the **Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS)** method, in accordance with international procurement policies and practices.

Evaluation will consider technical capacity, relevant experience, and cost, in line with international donor procurement practices

Submission Requirements

Interested firms must submit:

- Letter of Interest (LOI).
- Proof of legal status (Chamber of Commerce registration).
- Company profile and evidence of similar assignments in the past 10 years.
- Description of organizational capacity and areas of specialization.
- Evidence of relevant experience in Suriname or comparable environments.

All documentation must be submitted in **English**.

Deadline and Contact

Expressions of Interest must be delivered by **24th of July 2026** via email to:

Ministry of Finance and Planning

Attn: Procurement Lead – Priority Social Projects Paramaribo, Suriname

Email: procurement@oversightboard.gov.sr