



Ref No: A- 92 /2009

Date: 11<sup>th</sup> October 2009

## **INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI) FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF MENDHOO ISLAND TO A COMMERCIAL AGRICULTURE FARM**

### **Description of Requirement**

Mendhoo island located in the South Central (73°23'E 1°47'N) of the Maldives has a land area of 64 hectares including 5 hectares of marshy land. The island shares an acquisitive lagoon with two inhabited islands of Laamu Atoll. Although water availability is limited, groundwater quality is good.

Mendhoo Island was developed by the Government of the Maldives and operated for 8 years as a key Agricultural Training Centre with an overall objective of demonstrating the commercial agricultural potential of the Maldives. The Government is convinced that private sector investment supported by a conducive and sound business climate can provide the dynamism for encouraging diversification of the agriculture sector in order to generate economic growth and increase employment. The privatization of Mendhoo island for agriculture development through innovative and environmentally sound practices is seen as an important aspect of the strategy aimed at transforming Maldives agriculture into a vibrant and productive economic sector.

### **Scope of Mendhoo Development**

Mendhoo will be established as a full fledged agricultural farm using environmentally sound and improved technology aimed at attaining optimum output from the available resources. In collaboration with the Ministry of Fisheries and Agriculture, the partners will be required to develop the island in any or all the following fields of agriculture and related activities.

1. Establish agricultural farms with identified crops and other products (e.g. mushroom,) using environmentally sound technology.
2. Develop poultry/ animal husbandry using improved breeds and appropriate technology for optimal output.
3. Establish agriculture input delivery service
4. Establish appropriate agricultural marketing facilities and infrastructure for high quality produce for the domestic (including the local resorts) and export markets
5. Establish infrastructure and services required for agriculture value addition

It is proposed that the island establish its own brand name for marketing.

### **Expression of Interest**

In this connection the Government of the Maldives is requesting written 'Expressions of Interest' (EOI) from eligible parties with relevant experience, know-how and with the required operational and financial capacity to collaborate with the Ministry of Fisheries and Agriculture on suitable partnerships. The EOI shall consist of the following:

1. Brief profile of the applicant, including (if applicable) current experience in the management of similar enterprises/services by the applicant.
2. Brief concept paper on how partners propose to:
  - a) Develop the aforementioned agriculture concepts and services

### **Important Notice**

1. The EOI does not constitute a solicitation. The Government of Maldives reserves the right to change or cancel the requirements at any time during the EOI and/or solicitation process. Thus acknowledgement of receipt of an EOI does not automatically guarantee that the firm will be considered for receipt of the solicitation when issued.
2. Parties selected for solicitation will hold detailed discussions, survey the existing facilities and regions and provide detailed project proposals.
3. Parties thus selected may also propose business models that best suit achieving the aims of the collaboration.
4. Any queries and clarification relating to the EOI or preparation of the detailed proposals may be directed to the correspondence address given below.

Dead line for receipts of EOI: 29<sup>th</sup> November 2009 before 1500 hrs (local time)

### **The EOI's must be submitted to:**

Invest Maldives  
Ministry of Economic Development  
1st Floor, Invest Maldives Building  
Boduthakurufaanu Magu  
Male', Rep.of Maldives,  
Tel: (960) 3324767, Fax (960) 3322528  
Email: [info@investmaldives.org](mailto:info@investmaldives.org)  
Website: [www.investmaldives.org](http://www.investmaldives.org)