



Ref No: A- 115 /2009

Date: 31ST December 2009

INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI) FOR THE LEASE OF BODUMOHORAA ISLAND, V.ATOLL FOR MARICULTURE

Description of Requirement

Commercial exploitation of reef fisheries in Maldives has shown that they can be easily over-exploited. Fortunately some of the export-varieties harvested in the Maldives are known to breed well in captivity and have viable commercial mariculture operations elsewhere. Thus studies have shown the Maldives has enormous mariculture potential.

Development of mariculture in the Maldives is a government priority. Creating an enabling environment for the private sector to invest in developing mariculture is being undertaken by the Ministry of Fisheries and Agriculture.

The Marine Research Centre of the Ministry of Fisheries and Agriculture has been undertaking research on candidate species and their culture potential. The experiences by the Centre confirm that some of the groupers species are highly suitable for mariculture in the Maldives.

Mariculture work has been undertaken in the island of Bodumohoraa in Vaavu Atoll. Located on the western section of the Foththeyo Faru, it is one of the most pristine reef systems in the Maldives. The island is about 25 hectares and has substantial infrastructure developments relating to mariculture research.

The Governments' new thinking has been to lease the Bodumohoraa island for private sector to facilitate investments and development of a full fledged commercial mariculture facility. The main infrastructural developments on the island include:

- a. Fish hatchery with a laboratory (includes water intake system)
- b. Green house for algae culture
- c. Power house, with 3 generators
- d. Staff accommodation building, including the kitchen and dining areas
- e. Office building
- f. Mosque
- g. Warehouse

Scope of Bodumohoraa Lease

1. Bodumohoraa shall be used only for the purposes mariculture development.
2. Mariculture activities shall be undertaken in accordance with the government rules and regulation set out by the Ministry of Fisheries and Agriculture.

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. 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 mariculture concept 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.

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Ministry of Economic Development
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Email: ahmed.zakariyya@trade.gov.mv

Dead line for receipts of EOI: **31 January 2010 before 1500 hrs (local time)**

The EOI's must be submitted to:

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