



**REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS FOR CONSULTANCY FOR CONSULTING SERVICE TO PREPARE
BELIZE'S GLOBAL DIGITAL SERVICES INVESTMENT POLICY WITH FOCUS ON THE ORANGE
ECONOMY**

Institution: Ministry of Economic Development
Country: Belize
Project: Trade and Investment Facilitation Program in Belize (TIFP)
Sector: Trade and Investment
Abstract: This project aims to promote Belize's foreign direct investment and trade performance.
Loan No.: 5582/OC-BL
Process ID: BL-L1040-P00026
Deadline: **Wednesday, February 21, 2024; 10:00 a.m. (Local Belize Time)**

The Government of Belize has received eight million US Dollars (US \$8M) in loan financing from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) for the implementation of the Project – Trade and Investment Facilitation Program in Belize (TIFP). The Trade and Investment Facilitation Program is a response to the low investment flows and limited international trade competitiveness faced by Belize. The general objective of the program is to promote Belize's foreign direct investment and trade performance.

The specific objectives are to:

- (i) improve investment facilitation through simplification, standardization, and automation of key investment procedures;
- (ii) improve the investment promotion tools and MSMEs internationalization through the strengthening of the trade and investment institutional apparatus; and
- (iii) improve trade facilitation through simplifying, standardizing, and automating key trade processes.

The program is comprised of three (3) components that will support achievement of the objectives:

Component 1. Facilitate Investments in Belize through the Implementation of a Single Investment Window - This component will contribute to simplifying and automating key investment procedures through the implementation of the Single Investment Window

Component 2. Investment Promotion and Export Development - This component seeks to increase the positive spillovers of FDI in the local economy through the improvement of investment promotion programs and the development of a new suppliers' program to accelerate MSMEs internationalization, which will promote the growth of direct and indirect exports of the local firms in Belize.

Component 3. Trade Facilitation - This component will contribute to reducing delays associated with administrative trade procedures by strengthening trade facilitation through the implementation of a Foreign Trade Single Window.

In this regard, the Ministry is now launching the process to fill a contractual position, **Consulting Service to prepare Belize's Global Digital Services Investment Policy with focus on the Orange Economy** under the Project. The objective of this consultancy is to develop a strategic approach to transform the local Business Process Outsourcing (BPO) industry in Belize into a Global Digital Services industry, with higher tier services, to support the long-term growth of the sector. The approach is to identify measures (policies and legislation) as well as programs and activities which will facilitate an enabling environment for the development and growth of the Global Digital Services with focus on the Orange Economy in Belize to support its long-term growth and to adapt to the future global demand for digital services.

The Ministry of Economic Development now invites eligible Individual Consultants to submit applications in providing the services. Further information, including the required template for the application and full Terms of References, can be obtained via <https://med.gov.bz/>, by emailing tjoseph.ceu@med.gov.bz or calling 501-672-0848 during the hours 8:00am – 4:30pm from Mondays to Fridays prior to **February 15, 2024**. Interested Consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services.

Consultants will be selected in accordance with the procedures set out in the Inter-American Development Bank: Policies for the Selection and Contracting of Consultants financed by the Inter-American Development Bank GN-2350-15 and is open to all eligible candidates as defined in the policies. The Consultants will be selected based on qualifications.

Qualified Consultants should submit one (1) signed pdf application using the required template via e-mail to tjoseph.ceu@med.gov.bz indicating in the subject - **"Consulting Service to prepare Belize's Global Digital Services Investment Policy with focus on the Orange Economy – BL-L1040"**.

The Deadline for submission is no later than February 21, 2024, by 10:00 a.m. No late submissions will be accepted.