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**SL-Freetown: EDF — technical assistance to the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food Security in the framework of the implementation of the 'Agriculture for Development' project**

**2010/S 252-386907**

**Location: ACP countries — Sierra Leone**

**Contract forecast notice**

**Services**

Common procurement vocabulary (CPV):

Main object:

03000000 Agricultural, farming, fishing, forestry and related products

1. **Publication reference:**  
EuropeAid/130877/D/SER/SL.
2. **Procedure:**  
Restricted.
3. **Programme:**  
9th or 10th EDF.
4. **Financing:**  
Financing agreement.
5. **Contracting authority:**  
Government of Sierra Leone, Freetown, SIERRA LEONE.
6. **Nature of contract:**  
Fee-based.
7. **Contract description:**  
The contract is meant for engaging a technical assistance (TA) team whose task will be to address critical gaps in the agricultural sector of the economy and support the Ministry of Agriculture Forestry and Food Security (MAFFS) in the implementation and management of the 'Agriculture for Development' (A4D) project. The aim of the A4D project will be to help rejuvenate the cash crop sector, in particular cocoa, coffee and cashew, which are selected crops of the highest socio-economic comparative advantage, and strengthening the links in the value chain, thereby enabling profitability to be increased at each level. Thus the programme will constitute a major economic development initiative tackling systematic disincentives that keep rural families in poverty and the private sector frustrated at high transaction costs and unnecessary risks. The proposed programme will target smallholder farmers in selected districts, estimated at 140 000 farming households amounting to about 1 000 000 people overall. The TA team will consist of 1 long-term expert in agricultural policy and/or economics, together with a mixed team of long-term and short-term experts for other specialised tasks as required. The indicative budget for this contract is 2 700 000 EUR.
8. **Numbers and titles of lots:**  
The contract is divided into lots: No, 1 lot only.

9. **Budget:**  
Maximum budget: 2 700 000 EUR.
10. **Intended timing of publication of procurement notice:**  
February 2011.
11. **Additional information**
12. **Legal basis:**  
ACP–EC Partnership Agreement signed at Cotonou on 23.6.2000 as amended.
13. **Date of dispatch of this notice:**  
16.12.2010.

**Remarks:**

There must be a minimum period of 30 calendar days between the publication of this contract forecast and the publication of the corresponding procurement notice.

No applications or requests for information should be sent at this stage.