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October 2nd, 2012

Mr. Nolys Presinal
Centro Alternativo Rural el Limón, Inc. (CAREL)
Carretera Principal, Paraje El Limón
San José de Ocoa, Dominican Republic

Dear Mr. Presinal:

This is to inform you that your proposal has received a favorable technical review and has been shortlisted for the OAS Sustainable Communities in Central America and the Caribbean Project. The competition was keen. We received over 60 proposals. We have shortlisted 22 and will be funding 12.

An experts' steering committee reviewed the proposals and a rigorous evaluation process was conducted. At this stage we have specific comments on your proposal and would like to seek further clarification with an updated proposal and budget as necessary.

In general, we are seeking proposals that:

1. Are replicable to other areas
2. are financially sustainable over time
3. Get results on-the-ground
4. Have a capacity building component
5. Have buy-in from either the local Municipality or Government and the local community
6. Are supported by the private sector,
7. Will generate lessons learned and best practices

Specifically we would like you to clarify and/or respond to the following comments by the evaluation panel:

1. What will be the content of the workshops' curriculum? How long will the workshops be? Please provide a sample agenda for one of the training workshops outlining the main topics and hours assigned to each.
2. How big (dimension) is the Center? Are there plans to use it for other purposes as well, apart from just classroom and office? Will it be used on a daily basis or will it be used in sporadic training sessions?



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3. Will trainees be traveling from other parts of the country? If so, who will cover the travel costs?
4. How many people will be trained in each workshop?
5. Will the technicians trained (under output 3 of the project) be the providers of the extension services? How are those 2 outputs related?
6. Please provide more detail on the 500 hours of technical services to be delivered under outputs 3 and 4.
7. How will the training Center cover its operation costs after the project is over (sustainability)? Will there be staff permanently at the Center?
8. In terms of the Project Timeline, please explain, if the Center is 70% built could it be finished in less than 5 months? What is the reason to assign 3 months to getting the materials?
9. In the Justification section it says that a major contribution will be given by the community through manual labor. Do you have certainty on their willingness and availability? If the community doesn't provide the required labor do you have a strategy to offset the cost without compromising the project time frame and budget?
10. Monitoring and evaluation procedures are not clearly defined please specify.
11. Does CAREL have plans to build more micro-hydroelectric systems in the 12 months of the project?
12. If this project is selected for funding, how will it impact the creation of new micro-hydroelectric systems? Is there a clear need and a plan to build new systems?
13. Project outputs, dissemination materials and documents will be posted in the OAS Sustainable Communities Website giving the proper credit, please confirm your agreement with this policy.

On the budget:

14. What is understood by "Incentivos Comunitarios" in the budget?
15. Under the budget by Activity, in Activity 3 "Capacitacion Tecnicos Comunitarios" the amount for personnel is \$5,995. However, according to the description, 10 workshops * 20 hours * \$12 should be \$2400. Please clarify.
16. Please clarify what is understood by "Costos Sociales" in the Budget by Category.
17. In the budget by Activity, please add a column with "units" to better understand where the calculations are coming from.

Please note this does not guarantee an assistance award from the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States. Only upon a second round of



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technical reviews of all shortlisted proposals, the 12 winning proposals will be announced.

Thank you for submitting a project proposal and for your interest in the Sustainable Communities in Central America and the Caribbean Project. We await your response by October 16th, 2012.

Sincerely,

Richard Huber
Principal Environmental Specialist
Department of Sustainable Development
Organization of American States
1889 F. St., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006