Date: October 12, 2012

Expression of Interest for conducting Maldives Youth and Gender Study

The World Bank under AusAID funds has initiated a study on Youth and Gender in the Maldives. The proposed work will examine the components and outcomes of healthy youth development in the Maldives from a gender perspective – i.e. for both young women and men. Specific objectives of the study are to identify risk factors and positive factors that affect youth development, at the family, community, and institutional levels; and to propose the role of government, the business sector and civil society in enhancing youth development.

To meet these objectives, the study plans: to conduct an assessment of the opportunities and challenges faced by youth. Its focus areas would be in terms of skills development, recreation, and engagement in risk behavior. The study will also identify the perceptions of youth, parents, and professionals on the research topic.

In order to conduct the study, The World Bank invites 'Expression of Interest' (EOIs) from interested Consulting Firms / NGOs to indicate their interest in providing the services for the above mentioned consultancy.. The interested Firms/ NGOs must furnish relevant documentation to confirm their ability to perform the expected services. Furnishing prior examples of similar work done will be mandatory.

Consultants will be selected in accordance with the procedure as per World Bank procurement guidelines "Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits & Grants by World Bank Borrowers, January 2011" available at www.worldbank.org/procure. Consultants may associate to enhance their qualifications. The "Association" may take the form of a joint venture (with joint and several liability) or of a sub-consultancy to supplement their respective areas of expertise, strengthen the technical responsiveness of their proposals and make available bigger pools of experts. The consultancies are expected to be for about 3 months. The consulting firms/NGOs must have knowledge and experience in (i) issues related to youth and gender in general and in the Maldives in particular, (ii) design of analytical frameworks (to guide the study), (iii) data collection and fieldwork techniques (videos, surveys, interviews), (iv) networks in the islands , and (v) analytical and reportwriting skills.

Interested Consultants/NGOs may submit 'Expression of Interest' in *soft copies* clearly superscripted as "Expression of Interest for the Consultancy work on [*Name of the consultancy*]" to the pghosh3@worldbank.org and ashafeeg@worldbank.org by **October 26, 2012**.