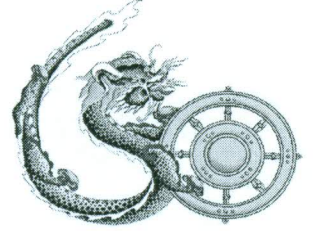




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ROYAL GOVERNMENT OF BHUTAN
Ministry of Agriculture and Forests
Tashichhodzong
Thimphu:Bhutan



MINISTER

MoAF/FCBL/2016/ 397

26 August 2016

Ms. Lakshmi Moola
Country Programme Manager
International Fund for Agricultural Development
Rome, Italy.

Dear Lakshmi,

This has reference to the consultancy services for the following three assignments under the Component 2 - Value Chain Development and Marketing of the Commercial Agriculture & Resilient Livelihoods Enhancement Programme (CARLEP):

- i. Assessment of the Institutional Capacity and Business Plan Development for FCBL
- ii. Vegetable Value Chain Mapping, Analysis and Design
- iii. Dairy Value Chain Mapping, Analysis and Design

In this regard, we regret to inform you that the above consultancy services under the programme have to be withdrawn in line with the recent decisions of the Government. This is due to the objections from the Royal Audit Authority (RAA) during the last parliament session of the RGoB. The RAA presented that the performance of the consultancy services provided by the external agencies were not justifiable against the investment made. The reference in particular was made on the investments made to McKenzie's Accelerated Bhutan's socio-economic development programme (ABSD). As such, Government directed the concerned ministries/agencies to abstain from engaging technical assistance unless it is critically required.

Therefore, to adhere with the government's decision, the ministry has to withdraw the above consultancy services under the programme. However, to ensure that the programme implementation is not hindered, we would like to inform you that the assignments will be undertaken through in-house and/or national TA.

We regret for any inconvenience caused and hope IFAD will respect the decisions of the Government.

With warm regards,

Yeshey Dorji

- 1) The Hon'ble Secretary, MoAF, Thimphu for kind information.
- 2) The Hon'ble Secretary, MoF, Thimphu for kind information.
- 3) The CEO, FCBL, Phuentsholing for kind information.
- 4) The PD, CARLEP, Secretariat, Wengkhari for necessary follow up.