



Rural Finance and Community Improvement Programme 2
(RFCIP 2)

INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING
Letter of Invitation for Bids

Bo City, Sierra Leone
27th February, 2026

**Re: Supply and Installation of Core Banking Software and Associated
Components to Rural Finance Network (RFN) Ref No: SLE-1710-0136-G-ICB**

1. The **Government of Sierra Leone** has received financing from the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) towards the cost of **Rural Finance and Community Improvement Programme phase 2 (RFCIP2)** and intends to apply part of the financing for the purchase of these goods. The use of any IFAD financing shall be subject to IFAD's approval, pursuant to the terms and conditions of the financing agreement, as well as IFAD's rules, policies and procedures. IFAD and its officials, agents and employees shall be held harmless from and against all suits, proceedings, claims, demands, losses and liability of any kind or nature brought by any party in connection with **Rural Finance and Community Improvement Programme phase 2 (RFCIP2)**.
2. In December, 2022, the Government of Sierra Leone requested access to US\$15 million from the IFAD12 Performance-Based Allocation System (PBAS) to scale up the results of RFCIP-II. Specifically, these additional resources were sought to: (i) increase project outreach and address the unmet demand for agricultural production loans, and (ii) digitize the network of rural financial institutions (Community Banks (CBs) and Financial Services Associations (FSAs), which operate under the regulatory supervision of the Apex Bank, to expand the range of quality products and services for the benefit of target groups, including small-scale farmers and rural micro and small enterprises.
3. The purchaser now invites sealed bids from eligible entities ("bidders") for the provision of **Supply and Installation of Core Banking Software and Associated Components to Rural Finance Network (RFN)** as shown below:

Lot No	Description	Bid Security Amount (USD)	Delivery and Installation, testing and pre-operation Period
1	Supply and Installation of Core Banking Software and Associated Components to Rural Finance Network (RFN)	120,000.00	12months

3. More details on these goods and related services are provided in the schedule of requirements in this bidding document.

4. This IFB is open to all eligible bidders who wish to respond. Subject to the restrictions noted in the bidding document, eligible entities may associate with other bidders to enhance their capacity to successfully deliver the goods and related services.
5. Bidding will be conducted using the International Competitive Bidding (ICB) method, the evaluation procedure for which is described in this bidding document, in accordance with the IFAD procurement handbook which is provided on the IFAD website www.ifad.org. The ICB process, as described, will include a review and verification of qualifications and past performance, including a reference check, prior to the contract award.
6. Please note that a pre-bid conference **will be held** as described in the bid data sheet BDS, Section II of the bidding document.
7. Bidders interested in submitting a bid shall purchase the bidding document against payment of a non-refundable fee of **SLE11,850 or USD500**. Payment shall be made to the Rural Finance and Community Improvement Programme Phase II (RFCIP2) Additional Finance through Western Union Money Transfer, RIA, MoneyGram or in the following account:

Account Name: **Rural Finance and Community Improvement Programme**

Phase II (RFCIP2) Additional Financing

Account No: **003-001-040-466-112-264**

Bank: **Sierra Leone Commercial Bank**

8. Bidding documents can be obtained by sending an e-mail with a copy of the payment slip, giving full contact details of the bidder and the subject of procurement to info@npcu.org. This will also ensure that the bidders receive the bidding document by email, including any updates regarding the bidding document.
9. Bids must be submitted **electronically** in the manner specified in the BDS ITB 25 no later than **13th April, 2026 at 12:00GMT Sierra Leone Time**.
10. Bidders should be aware that late bids will not be accepted under any circumstances and will be returned unopened to the bidder. All bids must be accompanied by a bid security (as required) in the manner and amount specified in the bid data sheet.
11. Please note that **ONLY** electronic bids **shall be** accepted as defined in ITB BDS 25.

Yours sincerely,

Programme Coordinator
National Programme Coordination Unit, Ministry of Agriculture and Food
Security
72 Bo Kenema Highway, Bo City
[**Info@npcu.org**](mailto:Info@npcu.org)