

REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS

Issuance Date: Feb 27th, 2024

Closing Date: March 15th, 2024

Subject: **Request for Applications-RFA-The SMAC Project-01-01**
Strengthening the production, productivity and supply chain of bee honey in Eastern and Central Equatoria state.

Reference: Issued Under Caritas Switzerland (CACH) funded Strengthening Market Actors and Communities through Market Systems Development implemented by SPARK

Introduction

Strengthening Market Actors and Communities (SMAC) is a 15-month project funded by Caritas Switzerland. The SMAC Project will be implemented through a Market System Development (MSD) approach. In poor and fragile contexts such as South Sudan, vulnerable people often cannot reap the benefits of market systems, e. g. they do not have access to the market, they are in weak negotiation positions, or they cannot enforce or influence the rules. Even if the poorest gain access to markets, their participation in the economic system does not necessarily equal an exit from poverty.

Through this Request for Applications (RFA), the project seeks to identify and partner with processors, and/or any market actors in the bee honey value chain to promote the uptake and utilization of improved bee hives, increase production and productivity & quality of locally produced honey within Eastern and Central Equatoria states. Leveraging on the SMAC project resources to co-design innovative approaches and or build sustainable sales models. The private agribusiness will contribute towards the distribution and uptake of improved beehives and supply of quality honey by farmers, meeting the local demand at affordable prices and contributing to improving the socio-economic conditions of the small holder farmers. SMAC aims to address the problem of declining production and productivity and quality contributing to expanding the local production's domestic market share while creating avenues for enhanced external market opportunities, thereby fostering more inclusive growth.

SPARK intends to provide a milestone-based performance awards to eligible companies/agribusiness/market actors (for profit organizations) with award **up to a maximum amount USD 50,000** each. The expected duration of the SMAC project support or the period of performance is ten months (10) months. SPARK, as primary implementer, ***SPARK reserves the right to fund any or none of the applications submitted.*** Interested applicants should sent a request for the detailed RFA documents to the email: SMAC_partnership@spark-online.org, subject line: **RFA-The SMAC Project-01-01**