

**CALL FOR PROPOSAL - CONSULTANCY SERVICES**

**CONSULTANCY SERVICE TO CARRY OUT TARGETTED RESEARCH ON ONLINE CHILD  
SEXUAL EXPLOITATION (OCSE) IN AFRICA**

Reference No.: **AUC /SAD/C/001**

**Introduction**

The African Union was established as a unique Pan African continental body. It is charged with the responsibility of spearheading Africa's rapid integration and sustainable development by promoting unity, solidarity, cohesion and cooperation among the peoples of Africa and African States; as well as developing a new world wide partnership. Its Headquarters is located at Addis Ababa, capital city of Ethiopia. With funding from the Commonwealth fund, the African Union is implementing a two year project to strengthen regional and national capacity and action against online child sexual exploitation in Africa.

**Background**

Africa is fast becoming a hub of online child sexual exploitation due to the rapid rise in the use of the information communication technologies. Internet and Sexual Exploitation of Children Online has manifested in the distribution of child sexual abuse material, child pornography, grooming of children for sexual purposes, sexual extortion of children, and live streaming of child sexual abuse among others. However, there is a dearth of information on the extent of the phenomenon. Such knowledge would facilitate legal frameworks in line with internationally agreed conventions to build effective national responses to put an end to the sexual exploitation of children perpetrated through the use of information and communication technologies including the internet.

The African Union is currently implementing a project aimed at strengthening regional and national capacity and action against Online Child Sexual Exploitation through the development of multi-stakeholder mechanisms and the development of national action plans linked to the WePROTECT Model National Response (MNR). In this regard, a key component of the project is to build evidence and understanding of the existing capabilities to address OCSE in AU Member States through targeted research.

In seeking to achieve this objective, the African Union intends to recruit a consultant to conduct desk review of existing literature on OCSE in all AU Member States, collect and compile data, analyse it and come up with a detailed situation report which will form the basis of programme implementation. The report highlighting the magnitude of the problem in Africa will be launched at a high level Ministerial Meeting of the African Union in 2019 to mobilise political commitment by Member States towards strengthening regional and national capacity and action against OCSE on the continent.

## **Scope the Assignment**

The work involves a conducting desk reviews for the 55 Member States of the African Union from a variety of data sources including academic and technical institutions in the countries and sub-regions, and field visits to 5 to 10 countries as need arises. The focus is to gather evidence and understanding of the existing capabilities.

## **Duty Station**

The Consultant shall work from home with scheduled travel to the African Union Commission in Addis Ababa, visits to 5 to 10 countries as need arises and determined in consultation with the African Union Commission.

## **Activities**

The consultant shall conduct a desk review of existing literature on OCSE in 55 Member States of the African Union and field visits to 5 to 10 countries as may be determined in consultation with the African Union Commission, collect, compile and analyse data, and prepare report as follows:

1. Conduct a mapping exercise, reviewing existing and potential information sources to assess the nature and extend of OCSE.
2. Assess institutional capacities and frameworks, programs and legislation in place in each country, thus identifying gaps and opportunities to better prevent and respond to OCSE in each country.
3. Assess existing MNR mechanisms and make recommendations for development and strengthening key capabilities of MNR in bearing in mind situation, needs, existing capacity and opportunities for participating countries.
4. Suggest indicators for monitoring of national action and key MNR capabilities.
5. Make recommendations for comprehensive actions at the national and regional levels, identifying key institutions and envisaged roles, and key actions by the African Union Commissions.
6. Produce the final report and an executive summary
7. Undertake validation of the report

## **Deliverables**

A consolidated regional status report on OCSE from 55 Member States of the African Union produced in the required format<sup>1</sup> including:

1. Extent, patterns and trends of OCSE
2. Available data on the problems and impact of OCSE
3. National responses to OCSE

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<sup>1</sup> See "Child Protection in the Digital Age- National responses to online child sexual abuse and exploitation in ASEAN Member States" published by UNICEF EAPRO as a reference.  
[https://www.unicef.org/eapro/Child\\_Protection\\_in\\_the\\_Digital\\_Age.pdf](https://www.unicef.org/eapro/Child_Protection_in_the_Digital_Age.pdf)

4. Baseline MNR capabilities which will be expanded, updated and maintained over the life of the program and beyond through the regional monitoring platform
5. Recommendations to strengthen key capabilities of MNR of identified relevant actors, building on existing programmes (if any) in each of those countries,
6. Validation prior to finalization of the report
7. Matrix of recommendations for comprehensive actions at the continental, regional and national levels, for key institutions and envisaged roles, and in particular, key actions identified for the African Union Commission regarding the implementation of the OCSE project.
8. Production of the full report and an executive summary

## **Qualification and Experience of the Individual Consultant**

### **Education**

- A least a Master's degree in social sciences, or any related field. Additional training in children's issues, and cyber security will be an added advantage.

### **Experience**

- Preferably a minimum of seven (7) years of relevant and practical experience in social science research in a variety of fields including Online Child Sexual Exploitation, children's rights, violence against children, crime prevention, or cyber security.
- Previous experience working for children's rights organizations; and/or rights and protection, cybercrime/security, and crime prevention and criminal justice fields.
- Strong knowledge and understanding of theory and concepts on Online Child Sexual Exploitation, children's rights, protection and criminal justice interface, violence against women, confluence between protection and crime prevention.
- Strong knowledge and understanding of crimes against children including sexual exploitation of children.
- Experience in the production of country assessment studies and reports.
- Knowledge of quality assurance methods for data collection and analysis
- Demonstrated capacity to write clearly and concisely

### **Required Skills**

- Ability to write technical and non-technical information material.
- Ability to work collaboratively on a multi-disciplinary team.
- Demonstrated skills in leadership, diplomacy, collaboration, and interpersonal communication.
- Ability to work in a multi-cultural environment
- Ability to work with sensitive data and information in an ethical, confidential, and trustworthy manner.

### **Information Technology Skills**

Proficiency in the use of at least one software in each of the following categories:

- Word processing
- Spread sheet
- Database
- Internet use
- Statistical analysis (EpiInfo, STATA, SPSS, SAS, R)

### **Language Requirement**

Proficiency in one of the African Union working languages. Knowledge of one or several other working languages would be an added advantage.

### **Duration**

The assignment shall be executed in 120 working days within a period of 6 Months. The expected start date is March 2019.

### **Reporting**

The consultant shall work under the direct supervision of and report to the Director of Social Affairs

### **Professional Fee and Travel Expenses**

The Commission will pay the consultant a daily fixed fee of US\$400 and cost for reimbursable shall be covered by the African Union Commission in accordance with AU rules and regulations.

### **Payment Terms and Proposed Fee**

1. 20% - upon submission of an inception report
2. 40%- upon submission draft report
3. 40% - upon completion of full assignment

The African Union Commission now invites eligible Individual Consultants to send their proposal in providing the services.

For evaluation of the expressions of interest the following criteria will be applied:

- a. General Education Qualification and Relevant Training of the Consultant (20 Points);
- b. Experience in undertaking similar assignments (40 points);
- c. Technical approach and methodology (30 points)
- d. Work plan (10 points)

Interested Individual Consultants are requested to submit the following documents for AUC's consideration as part of their proposal.

a) Technical Proposal on:

- CV of the Individual Consultant
- Methodology to be used in undertaking the assignment
- Time and activity schedule

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours 8:00-13:00hrs and 14:00-17:00 hours Local Time.

Proposal must be delivered in a written form to the address below not later than 15:00 hours local time, on February 18, 2019.

**African Union Commission,  
Attn: Carine Toure Yemitia (Mrs.)  
Head of Procurement Travel and Store Division  
Building C, Room 327  
P.O.Box 3243, Roosevelt Street  
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**  
Tel: +251 (0) 11 551 7700 – Ext 4305  
Fax: +251 (0) 11 551 0442; +251 11-551-0430  
E-mail: [tender@africa-union.org](mailto:tender@africa-union.org)

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