



REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (REOI)

(CONSULTING SERVICES– INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT)

**Project Name : –Sahel Women Empowerment and Demographic Dividend (SWEDD)
Africa Regional Project and the Eastern and Southern Africa Girls' Empowerment
and Resilience (EAGER) Programme**

Project No. ET-AUC-392584-CS-INDV

ASSIGNMENT TITLE: Regional Programme Coordinator

The African Union Commission has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the consultancy service for the selection of Regional Programme Coordinator.

This EOI is prepared to engage an Individual consultant for the Selection of individual consultant for the position of Regional Programme Coordinator

1. Background

The African Union (AU) and the World Bank Group have established a strategic partnership and an extensive collaboration in various areas over the past years. Following increased engagement between the Commission and the World Bank, existing collaborations and new programmes on gender equality and women's empowerment (GEWE) have been established. In 2020, the AU and World Bank signed an agreement to implement the Sahel Women Empowerment and Demographic Dividend (SWEDD) Africa Regional Project (2020-2024), and more recently a grant has been approved for the Eastern and Southern Africa Girls' Empowerment and Resilience (EAGER) programme, to be implemented from 2024 to 2029. Together, the two projects provide a

platform to directly collaborate with AU Member States across Western, Central, Eastern and Southern Africa on women and girls' empowerment.

The SWEDD project seeks to strengthen advocacy and political commitment on Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child Health, and Nutrition (RMNCHN) and women's empowerment at continental, regional and national levels, in particular to: (a) improve capacity to promote and monitor the ratification, domestication and implementation of regional instruments, particularly those relating to girls and women empowerment and, prevention of Sexual and Gender-based Violence (SGBV) and harmful practices (including child marriage and female genital mutilation); (b) strengthen capacity of continental, regional and national institutions to prevent and respond to SGBV, harmful practices, and improve women's access to justice and economic inclusion; (c) strengthen data and reporting systems of the African Union Commission on gender related outcomes; (d) facilitate capacity development to track and share best practices across Member States and among non-state actors on youth and women's empowerment; (e) conduct advocacy and contribute toward continental and regional campaigns that promote women's empowerment and condemn Gender-based Violence; and (f) inform annual reporting and action at the level of Heads of state and Government.

Building on the objectives of the SWEDD, the new EAGER programme seeks to increase girls' and women's educational attainment and earnings and to strengthen the institutional capacity to implement gender equality policies. The programme components include boosting human capital accumulation, enabling access to productive employment, and building the enabling environment to generate change across both formal and informal institutions including development of policies and regulatory frameworks, markets, and social norms that support the adoption of progressive gender equality reforms.

2. Objectives of the assignment

The Project Manager is responsible for the day-to-day management and implementation of the Project, including provide inputs on technical issues of the project and handle all substantive administrative matters related to project implementation as per the project operations manual and the grant agreement

3. Duty Station

The Regional Programme Coordinator is expected to be based in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. He/ She shall avail time for any travel pertinent to SWEDD & EAGER as requested by the Department of Health, Humanitarian Affairs and Social Development, and/or the Women, Gender and Youth Directorate and the AU CIEFFA

4. Activities and Deliverables

The African Union Commission seeks the services of a qualified professional to execute the role of Regional Programme Coordinator to provide technical and coordination support in the implementation of all components of the SWEDD and EAGER projects, in accordance with the terms of reference defined below. Given the two project's implementation timelines, the 2024 work programme is expected to focus primarily on the implementation of SWEDD, and cross-cutting activities relevant to the two projects.

- a) Coordinating and monitoring all project activities outlined in Joint Programme Work-plans involving all relevant AUC implementation units: Health, Humanitarian Affairs and Social Development (HHS) Department; Women, Gender and Youth Directorate (WGYD); Office of Special Envoy on Women, Peace and Security; Office of the Special Envoy on Youth; the African Union International Centre for the Education of Girls and Women in Africa (AU-CIEFFA), in close liaison with AUC technical and operations teams (Finance, Procurement, Partnerships) to ensure coordinated, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.
- b) Providing overall operational and administrative support to the identified programmes, including acting as focal point for administrative and policy related queries, in close collaboration with relevant AUC departments.
- c) Assisting AUC officials to coordinate all political and high-level engagements, and meetings to ensure visibility, drafting and facilitating consideration of policy decisions and actions pertinent to the project's work within the African Union's mandate.
- d) Managing and monitoring performance of the Project Management Team (PMT) on all aspects of implementation – including convening, facilitating and compiling all reports, as appropriate, for the PMT meetings.
- e) Providing regular information to the Project Steering Committee (PSC) on management issues, which require timely intervention, and coordinating all aspects of convening the PSC – including all working documents, such as reports and briefing notes – and coordinating follow-up, implementation and reporting on all PSC decisions.
- f) Preparing quarterly, bi-annually and annual progress reports as required.
- g) Prepare and organize bi-weekly coordination calls with the World Bank teams, as well as 2-3 World Bank missions per year.
- h) Organizing training and orientation information sessions for the PMT, PSC, country representatives and other relevant stakeholders' and staff as defined in programme documents and plans.
- i) Ensuring that all bidding processes for goods, non-consulting and consulting services are performed according to the Financing Agreement (FA) procedures and guidelines.
- j) Collaborating and liaising with potential partners and stakeholders.
- k) Overseeing the development and implementation of communication and knowledge management strategies to be developed by the Project Officer
- l) Supervise the Project Officer and coordinate the work of interns, volunteers and other personnel supporting SWEDD or EAGER

- m) Perform additional tasks and assignments given by supervisors that are not already defined herein.
- n) Facilitate the development of Annual Work Plans, budget forecasts and procurement plans by coordinating inputs and consulting with all involved project implementation units named above;
- o) Report regularly on the status of the regional interventions, working closely with the PMT and with the oversight of the PSC. Reports will include regular reports to the PMT, quarterly to the PSC and overall project reports at a bi-annual and annual basis;
- p) Convene at least 2 sessions of the Community of Practice of WGE practitioners, including representatives of Member States joining the SWEDD and EAGER initiatives within the contract period;
- q) Coordinate a targeted advocacy drive, and convene strategic meetings and consultations to promote continental and regional action – taking opportunity to convene particularly high-level political leaders (Heads of State and Government, Ministers, Commissioners, Heads of RECs), regional CSOs and international organization leaders; and national level actors,
- r) Ensure increased engagement of stakeholders and partners on a shared goal for girls, women and youth empowerment in Africa within the project’s mandate.

5. Reporting and Supervision

The Regional Programme Coordinator shall report to the Head of Division of Social Welfare, Vulnerable Groups and Drug Control of the HHS Department, African Union Commission and work under its co-supervision together with the Director of the Women, Gender and Youth Directorate.

REMUNERATION

Remuneration is payable on a monthly basis. Fees payable do not include costs associated with project related travels, coordination/organization of project related activities and events, stakeholder dialogues, consultations and workshops. These costs will be met by the AU.

The following shall be made available by the STATAFRIC OFFICE

- 6.** Office accommodation ;
- 7.** Computer, Photocopying, Stationary ;
- 8.** Facilitation of Visa and
- 9.** Internet Access

10. Travel Expenses

If the Regional Programme Coordinator's travel out of the duty station expenses related to the travel shall be covered by the African Union Commission in accordance with African Union Commission rules and regulations.

11. Qualifications and Work Experience Required

- a) A Master's Level Degree with a focus on Social Sciences, Human Rights, Gender Studies, International Development, Economics, Public Administration or closely related focus.
- b) At least 5 years of relevant and practical experience in managing the implementation of women empowerment and/or gender-based violence activities and programmes.
- c) Experience in programme management, in particular the development of systems, processes and mechanisms to support programme planning, implementation, monitoring and progress reporting.
- d) Demonstrated experience in leading teams and monitoring performance.
- e) Strong teamwork and negotiation skills. Proven ability to work seamlessly across sectors and units, and to identify common ground between different perspectives.
- f) Demonstrated experience in development communication, editing and ability to synthesize complex documents and information into key messages.
- g) Experience working in and or knowledge of the development context of the African continent, with the ability to synthesize multi-country data and evidence, and information to articulate a continental picture will be preferable.
- h) Willingness and ability to travel.

12. Language Requirement

The Regional Programme Coordinator should be proficient in English and at least one of the African Union working languages. Good command of French is an advantage.

13. Terms of Payment and Duration

The Regional Programme Coordinator shall be remunerated based on experience and qualification of the ,consultant task load and will be guided by AUC considerations on equivalent professional level and rates. The contract will be covering a 6-month period, with possibility to extend based on successful performance.

14. Evaluation and Qualification Criteria

- (1) General experience - 10 Points

- (2) Specific Experience relevant to the assignment – 50 Points
- (3) Qualifications – 30 Points
- (4) Language – 10 Points

The African Union Commission now invites eligible Individual Consultants (“Consultants”) to submit their CVs for the assignment in providing the Services and required documents as per the evaluation and qualification criteria. Interested Consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services.

A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the “Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers” “Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers” July 2016 (“Procurement Regulations”), which can be found at the following website: www.worldbank.org

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

CVs for the assignment must be delivered in a written form following the above criteria to the emails below before 15:00 Hours Local Time on November 30, 2023.

African Union Commission,
Attn: Head of Procurement Travel and Store Division
Building C, Room 327
P.O.Box 3243, Roosevelt Street
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
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E-mails: tender@africa-union.org;