

AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK GROUP



REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

INDIVIDUAL BILINGUAL GENDER CONSULTANTS FOR SOUTHERN AFRICA REGIONAL BUSINESS DELIVERY OFFICE

1.The African Development Bank (AfDB) hereby invites bilingual International Individual Consultants (English and French) to express their interest as Individual Consultants (04) to support the AFAWA portfolio of projects in the four (04) Africa Regions.

2.The AfDB started the implementation of the Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa (AFAWA) program in 2021.Through this initiative, the Bank plans to unlock up to US \$5 billion in new financing for women led and women-owned businesses across Africa by 2026. The Bank is doing this through the AFAWA guarantee for growth program in partnership with the Africa Guarantee Fund, where the African Development Bank is helping to de-risk women-led small and medium sized enterprises and incentivize financial institutions to increase lending to women. The Bank is also utilizing its traditional instruments of Lines of Credit, Trade Finance and Equity to ensure a carve out of 30% is allocated to women SMEs with partnering financial institutions on the continent.

3. The services to be provided for this assignment include the following actions: (i) Support the TM in reviewing and processing requests sent for Bank’s clearance to ensure timely response and feedback; (ii) Review and advise on the general performance of projects including implementation of the project against the defined objectives and outputs; (iii) Review project implementation progress in line with the Bank’s results management framework of the approved Project; (iii) Assist the TM in reviewing monitoring reports from the Project Implementation Unit; (iii) Support the Project Implementation Units in addressing any capacity related challenges including adherence to project implementation timeframe; (iv) Review the status of recommendations and action plans made in Bank’s supervision missions; (vi) Organize and facilitate cross learning workshops, networking and pitching events in partnership with relevant stakeholders; (vii) Support communication strategy and tools to disseminate project results (compendium, lessons learnt, best practice via partners/AfDB Channels internet, social media etc.); (viii) Discuss challenges and constraints in project implementation; (ix) Review and address the procurement plans and pending issues; (x) Review all contracts in the projects in terms of their disbursement levels, delivery of their targets, and any issues relating to quality and timeliness in completion; (xi) Undertake similar assignments in other RMCs countries as may be required.

4. The Gender, Women and Civil Society Department (AHGC) invites bilingual Individual Consultants to apply to provide the services described above. Interested Individual Consultants must provide information on their capacity and experience demonstrating that they are qualified for the services (documentation, reference of similar services, experience in comparable assignments, proof of their knowledge of French, etc.).

5. SELECTION CRITERIA

General Qualifications and suitability to the Tasks	40
Experience in the specific assignment	30
Experience with International Institutions	10
Language Capacity	10
Working knowledge of the Africa Region	10

6. Shortlisted candidates will be invited to submit a technical and financial proposal for the assignment. An interview will be held with the candidates who obtained over 70% following assessment of their proposals. Final ranking will be based on 50% of the scores obtained following assessment of proposals, and 50% of the score obtained from the interview scores.

7. The eligibility criteria, the establishment of the shortlist and the selection procedure will comply with the Rules and Procedures for the Use of Consultants for Projects Financed by the African Development Bank Window, 2008 edition revised in 2012, which are available on the Bank's website at: <http://www.afdb.org>

8. The Bank is under no obligation to shortlist any individual who expresses interest. It should be noted that the interest shown by an Individual Consultant does not imply any obligation on the part of the Bank to include them on the shortlist.

9. The duration of the services is estimated at **6 months, renewable** and the start date is expected to be: **01 June 2023**.

10. While applying, kindly specify the Location for which you are applying:

- Nairobi;
- Yaoundé
- Pretoria;
- Tunis (or Abidjan, depending on the supervision's decision).

11. Expressions of interest in English must be submitted by e-mail, to the address mentioned below, no later than **05 May 2023 at 5 p.m.** While applying, please mention "**AFAWA portfolio of projects _ the location(s) chosen**".

Ex: "AFAWA portfolio of projects _ Yaoundé"; or
"AFAWA portfolio of projects _ Pretoria & Nairobi"

NB: do not chose more than 2 locations while applying.

Interested international individual consultants should send applications at the below listed email addresses.

For the attention of: a.area@afdb.org

And copy to: b.chitunga@afdb.org ; e.kouadio@afdb.org and r.sanon@afdb.org



Terms of Reference

Individual consultants (04) to support the AFAWA portfolio of projects

1. Introduction and Background

1.1. Established in 1964, the African Development Bank (the “Bank”) is the premier Pan-African development institution promoting economic growth and social progress across the continent. There are 81 member states, including 54 in Africa (Regional Member Countries). The Bank’s development agenda is delivering the financial and technical support for transformative projects that will significantly reduce poverty through inclusive and sustainable economic growth. In order to sharply focus the objectives of the Ten-Year Strategy (2013 – 2022) and ensure greater developmental impact, five major areas (High 5s) have been identified for scaling up, namely, light up and power Africa, feed Africa, industrialize Africa, integrate Africa and improve the quality of life for Africans.

1.2. The AfDB started the implementation of the AFAWA program in 2021. Through this initiative, the Bank plans to unlock up to US \$5 billion in new financing for women led and women-owned businesses across Africa by 2026. The Bank is doing this through the AFAWA guarantee for growth program in partnership with the Africa Guarantee Fund, where the African Development Bank is helping to de-risk women-led small and medium sized enterprises and incentivize financial institutions to increase lending to women. The Bank is also utilizing its traditional instruments of Lines of Credit, Trade Finance and Equity to ensure a carve out of 30% is allocated to women SMEs with partnering financial institutions on the continent.

The AFAWA program is also offering technical assistance/advisory to partner financial institutions to build their capacities to support women SME markets and tailor products and services more suitably to the types of businesses women run; and offer capacity building services for the women SMEs. To enhance the capacity of Women Entrepreneurship Enablers, in 2021, the Bank launched the first AFAWA Women Entrepreneurship Enablers call for proposals. USD 2.5 million in Grants is being provided to the top 10 women business associations, incubators, accelerators and such like organizations to strengthen their capacity in supporting women entrepreneurs alongside financial institutions and governments in 26 African countries. This program is expected to impact 16,000 women SMEs.

AFAWA is also ensuring a conducive overall business enabling environment for Women SMEs. The Bank is supporting policy dialogues to address women's property rights, legal status, and access to productive resources and tools such as land, technology and finance, in order to increase women's business participation and their economic, social and political empowerment. In addition, the Bank continues to engage with governments and regulators on expanding the modes of collateral beyond land in order to ease access to finance. To date, the African Development Bank has approved over USD 1 billion in financing on the continent for the purpose of on lending to Women SMEs

- 1.3. As part of its efforts to successfully roll out the implementation of projects related to access to finance and technical assistance in partnership with the Africa Guarantee Fund, Partnering Financial Institutions and Women Enablers. AFAWA seeks to recruit the services of medium-term individual consultants to support its portfolio of projects in the Central, East, North, South and West Africa.

2. Scope of Work

Under the overall guidance of the AFAWA Manager, and the direct supervision of the AFAWA Task Managers (TM) in the respective regions, the consultants shall undertake the following tasks:

- Support the TM in reviewing and processing requests sent for Bank's clearance to ensure timely response and feedback.
- Review and advise on the general performance of projects including implementation of the project against the defined objectives and outputs.
- Review project implementation progress in line with the Bank's results management framework of the approved Project.
- Assist the TM in reviewing monitoring reports from the Project Implementation Unit.
- Support the Project Implementation Units in addressing any capacity related challenges including adherence to project implementation timeframe.
- Review the status of recommendations and action plans made in Bank's supervision missions.
- Organize and facilitate cross learning workshops, networking and pitching events in partnership with relevant stakeholders.
- Support communication strategy and tools to disseminate project results (compendium, lessons learnt, best practice via partners/AfDB Channels internet, social media etc.)
- Discuss challenges and constraints in project implementation.
- Review and address the procurement plans and pending issues.
- Review all contracts in the projects in terms of their disbursement levels, delivery of their targets, and any issues relating to quality and timeliness in completion.
- Undertake similar assignments in other RMCs countries as may be required.

3. Qualifications and Experience

- The consultant should have a minimum of a master's degree in humanities, business,

gender, economics, agro-industry, project management, monitoring and evaluation, development economics or related fields.

- Have a minimum of eight (8) years of relevant experience, (including in multilateral development institutions) in project cycle management, as Technical Assistance Expert in sustainable finance, women's empowerment programs, enterprise development programs and value chains.
- Proven successful experience working with women's financial inclusion projects. key value chains and facilitating training in business and financial management skills for women SMEs
- Ability to work in a team spirit to achieve defined objectives in international multicultural
- Portfolio management experience working in Africa is a must.
- Excellent communication skills with good knowledge of English language.
- A good working knowledge of French is an advantage.
- Competences in the use of standard Microsoft Office applications (Word, Excel, Access, PowerPoint).
- A national of the Bank's Member Country.
- The consultants will be home based with occasional travels to projects in different regions.

4. Duration

The duration of the assignment is six (6) months renewables depending on the needs and implementation performance. The AHGC/AFAWA unit invites Individual Consultants to indicate their interest in providing the above-described services. Interested Consultants shall provide information on their qualifications, experience demonstrating their ability to undertake this Assignment (documents, reference to similar services, experience in similar assignments, etc.) and his/her references. The eligibility criteria, the establishment of a short list and the selection procedure shall be in conformity with the **Bank's Rules and Procedure for the Selection of Corporate Consultants**. Please, note that interest expressed by a consultant does not imply any obligation on the part of the Bank to include him/her in the shortlist. The assignment is estimated to starting on **01 June 2023**.

5. Location of Assignment

The Consultants will be based in the AfDB Regional Headquarters offices in Nairobi, Yaoundé, Pretoria and Tunis (or Abidjan, depending on the supervision's decision).

Expressions of interest must be received at the address below no later than **05 May 2023 at 5 p.m.**