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REFERENCE NUMBER: TIK/SJEA/006/2020

DESCRIPTION: Consultancy to review the status of public debt in EAC partner states during the COVID-19 pandemic.

POSTING DATE: 27th October 2020

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF BIDS: 4th November 2020

I. ABOUT TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL KENYA (TI-KENYA)

Transparency International Kenya (TI-Kenya) is a not-for-profit organization founded in 1999 in Kenya with the aim of developing a transparent and corruption-free society through good governance and social justice initiatives. TI-Kenya is one of the autonomous chapters of the global Transparency International movement that are all bound by a common vision of a corruption-free world. The vision of TI-Kenya is a corruption free Kenya. The organization has over 20 years' experience in governance work at the international, national, and county levels with advocacy as its signature approach

II. PROJECT BACKGROUND

TI-Kenya has been undertaking a three-year project on Promoting Domestic Resource Mobilisation in Africa under the Africa Economic Justice programme aimed at promoting domestic resource mobilisation in East Africa (Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi, and Tanzania). The project addresses regional and country inability to expand and realise desired domestic resource mobilisation potential and is designed on the premise that Africa is facing challenges that can well be solved by cooperation between countries through regional integration.

One of the project's outcomes, is the promotion of prudent public debt management in East Africa (EAC) region in line with the regional finance and investment protocol through implementation of appropriate legislative instruments to curb the rising public debt in the region and provision of data for civilian oversight.

III. PURPOSE OF THIS ASSIGNMENT

Since the emergence of the COVID-19 pandemic, governments in the EAC region have had to put in place, measures (including stimulus packages) aimed at cushioning the economy from the effects of the pandemic which has greatly affected lives and livelihoods. Some of these measures call for the East Africa Community (EAC) partner states to re-look at their budgeting amidst the decline in their Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and government revenues because of the pandemic. The pandemic has in turn affected public debt by forcing countries to acquire more debt obligations in attempts to avert the crisis. Some countries like Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, and Uganda have received credit facilities from IMF and other institutions towards addressing effects of the pandemic¹. With the surge of COVID-19 cases in the region, governments are put at an even tougher place to strike a balance between effectively executing their current budgets and ensuring economic sustainability post COVID-19 crisis including the recovery phase.

TI-Kenya therefore seeks to undertake a review of COVID-19 related public debt through a review of relevant financial documents including budgets, government borrowing as well as policy and legislative instruments on public debt management. The objective of this assignment is to determine COVID-19 response debt obligation vis a vis public debt management instruments

¹ <https://www.imf.org/en/Topics/imf-and-covid19/COVID-Lending-Tracker#AFR>

within these countries as an indicator for prudent debt management and debt sustainability in East Africa.

IV. SCOPE OF THE ASSIGNMENT

The assignment will be conducted in Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, and Uganda and shall cover the following scope.

1. Review partner states current financial documents including budgets, grant documents and financial reports to determine COVID-19 related debt since February 2020.
2. Review borrowing terms and public debt management instruments within these countries to determine strength of debt management instruments within East Africa and make appropriate recommendations.
3. Assess the effectiveness of public finance management tools within these countries to guarantee transparency and accountability in COVID-19 resource management
4. Assess the social, economic, and political impact of the emergency relief funds that have been offered to EAC countries to address COVID-19 pandemic and its effects
5. Assess the impact of COVID-19 pandemic on debt sustainability in the EAC
6. Identify key gaps, lessons, and best practices for prudent debt management during crisis and emergencies

V. METHODOLOGY

The methodology will include but not limited to review and analysis of existing and current financial documents, grant agreements, relevant legislation as well as interviews and discussion with key informants and groups. Detailed methodology shall be submitted in the expression of interest for the assignment

VI. DELIVERABLES

The consultant shall be expected to deliver the following:

1. Inception report which will include detailed methodology and workplan
2. A draft report covering, in detail, the scope outlined in section IV above
3. Validate the report. The consultant will work with TI-K to organise the validation workshop
4. Validation report
5. Final report

VII. DURATION

The consultant is expected to undertake the assignment within **18 working days**. The assignment shall start as soon as the contract is awarded.

VIII. QUALIFICATIONS OF THE CONSULTANT

1. Bachelor's Degree in Accounting, Statistics, Mathematics, Policy studies or related field.
2. A Master's degree in Business Administration, public policy analysis or public debt management will be an added advantage.
3. A minimum of 5 years' experience working in public finance management, research, or related field.
4. Demonstrable experience conducting similar consultancies at country, regional or international level
5. Good understanding of policy and legislative processes within the EAC region
6. Have strong research and analytical skills, communication (oral and written) and facilitation skills
7. Ability to work remotely with a multi-disciplinary team
8. Good leadership and organizational skills.

IX. APPLICATION PROCESS

Qualified candidates should submit a document of **not more than 10 pages** including:

1. Expression of interest (including methodology and work plan)
2. Curriculum Vitae fully describing applicant's qualifications and expertise
3. Financial bid detailing time and cost for the above deliverables.
4. Contact details of at least two independent referees
5. Evidence of previous relevant work undertaken

X. SUBMISSION OF BIDS

The deadline for submission of expressions of interest is **4th November 2020**. Applications should be sent by email to procurement@tikenya.org. Please indicate: **"TIK/SJEA/006/2020 Consultancy to review the status of public debt in EAC"** in the subject line of your email application.

NB: This bid is open to both individuals and organizations. The successful candidate/organization will be expected to provide two reference letters of previous work done.

XI. COMPLAINT PROCESS

This call for Expression of Interest does not constitute a solicitation and TI-Kenya reserves the right to change or cancel the requirement at any time during the EOI process. TI-Kenya also reserves the right to require compliance with additional conditions as and when issuing the final solicitation documents. Submitting a reply to a call for EOI does not automatically guarantee receipt of the solicitation documents when issued. Invitations to bid or requests for proposals will be issued in accordance with TI-Kenya rules and procedures. Any grievances and or complaints arising from the evaluation process and final tender award can be addressed, in writing, to the Executive Director and the Transparency International -Kenya Tender Complaints Committee.

The Executive Director
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