



NEPAD PLANNING AND COORDINATING AGENCY

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR THE JOINT EVALUATION OF THE NEPAD SPANISH FUND. Procurement Number: 001/CEO/CS/QBS/2016

INTRODUCTION

The African Union (AU) established as a unique Pan African continental body, is charged with 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 partnership worldwide. Its Headquarters is located in Addis Ababa, capital city of Ethiopia.

The New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) is a programme of the African Union adopted in 2001 in Lusaka, Zambia, aimed primarily at poverty alleviation and promotion of economic growth and sustainable development in Africa. As a consequence of the integration of NEPAD into the structures and processes of the African Union, the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency (NPCA) has been established by the Decision of the 14th AU Assembly of February 2010 as the technical body of the African Union, the offices of the NEPAD Agency are located in Midrand, Johannesburg, South Africa.

NEPAD Planning and Coordination Agency (NPCA) has allocated funds for the procurement of the above mentioned Consultancy services, and now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the consultancy services to undertake a joint final evaluation of the NEPAD Spanish Fund (NSF) for African Women's Empowerment. Expressions of Interest is open to all consultancy Firms worldwide for countries and territories which are member states of the United Nations and African Union.

BACKGROUND

The NEPAD Spanish Cooperation Fund is seeking consultancy services to undertake a joint final evaluation of the NEPAD Spanish Fund (NSF) for African Women's Empowerment.

The NSF was launched in 2007 by the NEPAD Coordination and Planning Agency (NPCA) y cooperation with the government of Spain to

fast-track commitments to gender equality and women's empowerment at local, national and regional levels in African countries. The NSF was established as an investment in support of gender equality and women's empowerment in African countries through the provision of financial and technical assistance to projects targeting commitments of gender equality and women's empowerment. The Fund's total amount is 20 million Euros. Since its launch, the NSF has delivered grants to 77 grantee programmes in 35 African countries specifically linked to improving women's economic, political and social empowerment and full use of their rights, within the framework of the MDG 3 in sub-Saharan African countries.

Its founding Memorandum of Understanding sets forth its mandate to track and assess the achievement of its goals. Therefore, NPCA and Spanish Cooperation have agreed to launch a joint evaluation of the NSF.

Purpose of the evaluation, time frame and budget

The evaluation shall provide a high quality assessment that allows main partner organizations –NPCA and Spanish Cooperation- to be mutually accountable for the Fund's performance and for the results achieved in support of women's empowerment and gender equality. The NSF will be assessed according to the criteria of relevance, efficiency, effectiveness, sustainability and added value. Key overarching evaluation questions are:

- To what extent has the NSF been a suitable instrument to contribute to African women's empowerment and gender equality?
- To what extent has the NSF been implemented so as to maximize the existing resources?
- To what extent has the NSF attained its main objectives?
- To what extent and how has the NSF fostered institutional sustainability of the actions it has supported?
- To what extent the NSF has added value in promoting gender equality and women's empowerment in Africa?

The evaluation shall cover financial and technical aspects of the Fund and will identify lessons learned for future policy development and programming of both organizations. Based on these results and lessons,

the evaluation will assess the added value of the NSF as a mechanism for supporting women's empowerment in the region.

Main users of the evaluation will be Spanish Cooperation and NPCA. The expected use of the evaluation is generate knowledge that can be actively used for better formulation and design of outcome based programmatic investments for women's empowerment and gender equality. The findings of this evaluation will be widely disseminated among various development constituencies in Africa.

Time frame, deliverables and budget

It has been estimated between 120 and 150 working days (24/30 weeks) for the consultancy team. Taking into account time for the revision of drafts and approval of deliverables by the evaluation management committee, total time scheduled for the evaluation is approximately between 30 and 36 weeks starting from when the contract is signed. This time schedule is distributed in the following phases, time and deliverables:

1. **Inception phase** (11/14 weeks). At the end of this phase, it is expected that the consultant team will present an inception report, to be discussed and agreed upon prior to embarking on fieldwork. The report will include, among others, a brief description of the object and objectives of the evaluation; the reconstruction of the intervention logic of the NSF; the proposed methodology, including the theoretical approach, data collection instruments, sampling criteria and types of data analysis, and the evaluation matrix.
2. **Field work** (4/5 weeks). It will be carried out in South Africa and in other 3 African countries that have received grants from the NSF. Individual aid memories for each country will be produced.
3. **Final phase** (9/11 weeks). The evaluation report will present the findings, conclusions and recommendations of the evaluation. Findings should be evidence-based and relevant to the evaluation objectives. Once approved, other report formats will be produced.

Submission of expression of interest

Consultancy firms may associate with other firms or individuals in order to enhance their capacity and qualifications.

Interested companies and/or candidates should have to present the Expression of Interest together with CVs of key consultants and a record of experience of the firms in handling consultancy services or similar

assignments. **Consultancy firms/Consultants may associate with other firms in order to enhance their capacity and qualifications.**

Consultancy firms will be required to submit elaborate general profile and background which should elaborate the following:

- a. Commercial Registration of the firm attaching necessary certificates.**
- b. Names of authorized representatives of the firm**
- c. Total Capitalization employed (Capital).**
- d. Core Business of the firm.**
- e. Record of experience of the consultants/Firms in handling consultancy services or similar assignments.**

Interested firms are required to submit one (1) original and three (3) copies of the Expression of Interest clearly marked as original and copies.

The Expression of Interest should be sent clearly marked **“001/CEO/CS/QBS/2016: EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR THE JOINT EVALUATION OF THE NEPAD SPANISH FUND FOR AFRICAN WOMEN’S EMPOWERMENT 2007-2016”**, and deposited in the **Tender Box before the 9th September, 2016 at 14:30 hours** local time and clearly addressed to:

**The Chairperson,
Tender Board,
NEPAD Planning and Coordination Agency,
230, 15th Road, P. O. Box 218 Midrand, 1685
Johannesburg, South Africa**

In Attention of: Vincent Moola, Acting Head of Procurement Division

Interested consultancy firms may obtain further information from the African Union Website; <http://au.int/en/bids> and NEPAD website: <http://www.nepad.org/tenders> or from **Vincent Moola, Acting Head of Procurement Division, NEPAD Planning and Coordination Agency, Email: VincentM@nepad.org**