



AFRICAN UNION DEVELOPMENT AGENCY - NEPAD

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (REOI)

INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT

PROJECT ADVISOR – STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENTS AND PARTNERSHIP BUILDING FOR HIGH SPEED RAIL NETWORK

PROCUREMENT NUMBER: 46/AUDA/DPDC/EI/ICS/2020

INTRODUCTION

AUDA-NEPAD is an African-owned and led continental agency, spearheading Agenda 2063. The decision on the African Union Development Agency is an affirmation by Member States of their commitment to own an instrument that will champion development support to countries and regional bodies in advancing their priorities through the implementation of Agenda 2063.

The mandate of the African Union Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD) is:

- To coordinate and execute priority regional and continental projects to promote regional integration towards the accelerated realization of Agenda 2063;
- To strengthen capacity of African Union Member States and regional bodies;
- To advance knowledge-based advisory support;
- To undertake the full range of resource mobilization; and
- To serve as the continent's technical interface with all Africa's development stakeholders and development partners.

The thematic work areas of the AUDA-NEPAD have been refocused into five main Directorates, one of which is the Directorate for Programme Delivery and Coordination (DPDC). DPDC is thus responsible for implementation of the continental High-Speed Railway Network (HSRN) project. The HSRN project will consist of actual and planned regional and national high-speed railway networks, and projects.

The expected impact of the Project is to promote continental economic integration; facilitate regional infrastructure development; catalyze the implementation of the various African Development Initiatives, as well as serve as a vital catalyst for inclusive development, sustainable peace, security and prosperity – as aspired within the wider vision of Agenda 2063 (which encompasses 12 flagship's projects including the HSRN.)

One of the initial steps in implementation of the HSRN is a detailed scoping study (DSS) which will provide the basis for consultation- particularly with the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) as key stakeholders and decision makers at the country level, for Phase II of the feasibility process (i.e., Pre-feasibility/Feasibility Studies). The DSS will provide key deliverables, including project cost and revenue estimates, recommended corridors/routes for piloting, strategic financing model for the High-Speed Rail (HSR) Project; and associated issues recommended for further investigations.

Due this reinforced focus and the mandate of the agency to execute the implementation of the HSRN project, the services of a consultant who will serve as an Advisor is being sought to support the work of the DPDC and the Project Manager responsible for the HSRN project.

OBJECTIVES OF THE ASSIGNMENT

The objective of the Project is to prepare the Detailed Scoping Study (DSS), of Vision 2063 African Integrated High Speed Railway Network (AIHSRN) and to consult broadly on the required buy-in of the RECs and Countries concerned in the initial stages of the implementation of the projects; The other objective is to advocate and popularize the project among African stakeholders and beyond.

Scope/Main Responsibilities of the Assignment:

In order to successfully carry out the Detailed Scoping Study, and subsequent studies, the Advisor to the Project on Stakeholder Engagements and Partnerships Building, under the supervision of the Head of Economic Integration will be responsible for working closely with the Project Manager and the Project Technical Coordinating Team to ensure the necessary understanding and buy-in of the project by stakeholders and partners.

The Project Advisor will be responsible for supporting the stakeholder consultation and partnership building towards the implementation of the High-Speed Rail (HSR) project.

The scope of work shall include the following:

- Assist in the implementation of advocacy strategy to achieve support, buy-in and good will of AUDA-NEPAD's key stakeholders and keep them well informed on the High Speed Rail (HSR) project;
- Assist in the design and implementation of strategies targeting the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and keeping the AUDA-NEPAD brand in the public's consciousness; particularly as it relates to the implementation stages of the HST;
- Assist in the design and implementation of stakeholder Action Plan to sensitise the RECs and countries (including exhibitions, town hall meetings, open fora, etc) to popularise the HST project;
- Assist in the AUDA-NEPAD Agency's branding and marketing activities – particularly branding of the HST project and establishing a stakeholder and partners database;
- Work with the HSR Steering committee and Technical Team to engage key RECs (UMA, EAC, SADC and ECOWAS) and their respective countries by embarking on a regional HSR campaign that will culminate into an endorsement for regular reporting at regional level on the progress of the HST project under Agenda 2063;
- Monitor and analyse current events, public opinion and press, identifying issues and trends on Africa's infrastructure as it relates to deployment of rail and advance locomotive modes of transportation across Africa and globally;
- Organise sensitisation events aiming at the dissemination of the project throughout the African continent;
- Participate actively in different stages related to the second DSS;
- Recommend the necessary steps and actions in order to revitalise the African Union Railway and the African Union School of Railway to create particular relations with Railway companies on the continent and get them involved in the project;
- Ensure coordination and communication on the various activities related to the development of high speed and with UIC (International Union of Railways.); and
- Be the focal point with the International Railway Institutions.

DELIVERABLES

Under the direct supervisor of the Head of Economic Integration the Consultant shall deliver the following deliverables:

1. Inception Report: Consisting of proposed methodology and workplan;
2. Communication Strategy for the High-Speed Rail Network;

3. High Speed Train promotional video in all official AU languages and disseminated through various media outlets;
4. Monthly compilation of articles, news events on rail developments and the HSRN for publishing on the virtual PIDA Information Center and through AUDA-NEPAD publications;
5. Report on stakeholder engagement on the HSRN and DSS with stakeholders in Rwanda, Tanzania and Namibia;
6. Survey on the status of the AU Railway Association and the African School for Railway with recommendations for AUDA-NEPAD on revitalizing these two institutions in line with the needs of the HSRN; and
7. Report on HSRN Communication campaign.

AUDA-NEPAD now invites eligible individual consultants (“Consultants”) who are nationals of African Union Members States to indicate their interest in providing the Services. Interested Consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services.

Qualifications, Experience and Competencies

- At least Master’s degree in social science, communications, mass media, journalism, or another relevant academic field or First degree with at least 10 years of relevant experience in lieu of Masters;
- At least 10 years of relevant work experience in communications and stakeholder engagement;
- Strong computer skills (Microsoft Office, internet research, social media);
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills with mastery of either English or French and working knowledge of the other;
- Experience with developing communication plans and advocacy campaigns;
- Experience working with different stakeholders in Africa including RECs and Specialised Agencies; and
- Knowledge of AUDA-NEPAD and AU particularly with respect to Agenda 2063 and the flagship High Speed Rail.

The shortlisting criteria are:

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

- a) General Education and Relevant Training (30 points);
- b) Experience Related to the Assignment (60 points); and
- c) Knowledge of the region & local conditions (10 points)

Reporting and Time Schedules: The duration of assignment is expected to last six (6) months. The Consultant will report directly to the Head of Economic Integration.

A Consultant will be selected in accordance with Individual Consultant Selection (ICS) method set out in the AU Procurement Manual.

Interested Consultants may obtain further information at the address below during office hours (08:00 - 17:00 South African time). Expressions of interest must be delivered to the address below by the **27th February 2020 by 14:30 hours (South African Time)** and should be clearly marked as **“PROJECT ADVISOR – STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENTS AND PARTNERSHIP BUILDING FOR HIGH SPEED RAIL NETWORK: Ref: 46/AUDA/DPDC/EI/ICS/2020”**. **EOIs can also be sent by email**, addressed on the following address:

The Chairperson Internal Procurement Committee (IPC)

AUDA-NEPAD

230, 15th Road, P. O. Box 218 Midrand,
1685 Johannesburg, South Africa

Email: bathom@nepad.org and copy procurement@nepad.org

Attention of: Head of Procurement Division