

Call for consultants

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Mapping regional and transnational advocacy for women's rights in Africa: actors and issues October 2017

INTRODUCTION

The African Women's Development Fund was established in June 2000, as an Africa-wide philanthropic, grant making initiative to support the realisation and fulfilment of African women's rights through funding of autonomous women's organisations on the continent. AWDF believes that if women and women's organisations are empowered with skills, information, sustainable livelihoods, opportunities to fulfil their potential, plus the capacity and space to make transformatory choices, then we will have vibrant, healthy and inclusive communities. To achieve this, AWDF mobilises financial, human and material resources to support local, national, and regional initiatives for transformation led by African women. AWDF is mandated to fund in all 54 African countries.

In 2017 AWDF began to implement the **Leading from the South** funding initiative- providing grants and capacity building to support advocacy and lobbying for women's rights in Africa and selected countries in the Middle East. The initiative is being implemented with three other women's funds; South Asian Women's Fund, Fondo Mujeres del Sur and the Indigenous Women's Fund.

PURPOSE OF THE CONSULTANCY

The aim of this consultancy is to produce a report mapping transnational advocacy conducted by African women's rights organisations, networks and coalitions with the aim of generating information on provide up to date information on:

- key women's rights issues and themes being addressed
- key women's rights actors and the advocacy they are conducting
- Key allies and adversaries on the specific advocacy agendas
- Advocacy approaches- including what institutions advocacy is being directed at and choice of advocacy approaches

The mapping should also include:

- key big picture opportunities, gaps and concerns (including security and other threats)
- an indication of key donors currently funding in this area

The report will be used to internally within AWDF to inform our programming, and may also be shared with other women's funds supporting work in this area.

By transnational we mean advocacy being carried out in more than one African country, at the sub-regional level (e.g. ECOWAS, COMESA; SADC; EAC), regional (African Union, African Commission, African Court) and/or international level (e.g. United Nations; between Africa and other global regions).

Advocacy includes campaigns, lobbying, policy advocacy, strategic litigation, shadow reporting, and monitoring of policy commitments.

By Africa we mean the entire African region including North Africa. We also ask for inclusion of advocacy initiatives in Francophone and Lusophone Africa as well as Anglophone/English speaking organisations and initiatives.

METHODOLOGY

- Discussion with AWDF team to clarify terms and overall scope of the consultancy
- Submission of outline of methodology and list of people to interview

- Desk review of relevant documents
- Interviews with up to 10 relevant actors (women's rights activists, funders, staff of policy institutions). AWDF will make introductions as needed.
- Production of first draft for review and feedback by AWDF staff
- Production of second draft incorporating feedback
- Production of final version with sign off from AWDF

DELIVERABLES

- Outline of methodology used including list of people to interview
- A mapping of up to 15 pages providing information on:
 - Key transnational advocacy campaigns, agendas and themes currently being addressed by African women's organisations, coalitions and networks (including major successes and key challenges); gaps and opportunities for advocacy by African women's groups.
 - And indication of key concerns and threats around this advocacy – including around security- that should be considered
 - Other non-governmental actors conducting advocacy on women's rights in Africa and what they are focusing on (e.g. INGOs; non-African and non-women led organisations, coalitions and networks)
 - Key donors funding African women's rights advocacy- including their focus and themes
 - List of key African women's organisations, coalitions and networks working on women's rights in a transnational way
 - List of people interviewed with contact information
 - References consulted

CONSULTANTS PROFILE

The consultant should have:

1. Expert knowledge of women's rights advocacy across the African region
2. Experience in conducting mappings/action research
3. Excellent writing skills and proficiency in English essential. Ability to speak/interview in French desirable.
4. Excellent interpersonal skills and flexible attitude
5. Commitment to feminist and human rights principles of equality and diversity.

DURATION OF THE ASSIGNMENT

The assignment shall be for 12 working days including submission of final document.

The Consultant shall be required to submit the first draft for review by 11 December 2017 and the final document incorporating all comments by 10 January 2018.

To apply

Please send a CV and cover letter indicating previous experience and relevant field knowledge as well as a quotation for daily consulting rate to Madonna Kendona, Programme Officer- Special Initiatives Madonna@awdf.org .

Please put as in the email subject header: *Application for consultancy- Africa regional advocacy*

Submissions must be received no later than 13 November 2017.