

Call for consultants

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Mapping advocacy for women's rights in the Sahel Region May 2019

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 women's rights advocacy organisations, networks and coalitions in the Sahel region of Africa, the issues that they advocate on, targets of advocacy and approaches. The countries of focus are: Senegal, Mauritania, Mali, Burkina Faso, Niger, Northern Nigeria and Chad.

The mapping should also include key big picture opportunities and gaps, as well as an indication of key donors funding in the field. 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.

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

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 a list of people to interview
- A mapping of up to 15 pages providing information on:
 - Overview of the operating environment for women's rights in the different countries, including indication of specific issues and challenges around receiving funds and conducting women's rights advocacy in the different countries.
 - Key advocacy organisations, networks and coalitions in the Sahel countries
 - Campaigns, agendas and themes currently being addressed by women's organisations, coalitions and networks in these regions
 - Major successes and key challenges over the past decade; gaps and opportunities for advocacy by women's groups in the Sahel region.
 - Key donors funding women's rights advocacy in the Sahel region- including their focus and themes
 - List of key women's organisations, coalitions and networks working on women's rights in the Sahel region
 - List of people interviewed with contact information
 - References consulted

CONSULTANTS PROFILE

The consultant should have:

1. Expert knowledge of women's rights advocacy, organisations and movements across the Sahel region
2. Experience in conducting mappings/action research
3. Excellent writing skills and proficiency in English essential.
4. Excellent command of French essential (for interviews and literature review as needed)
5. Excellent interpersonal skills and flexible attitude
6. 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 **July 1, 2019** and the final document incorporating all comments by **July 16, 2019**.

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 jobs@awdf.org.

Please put as the email subject header: *Application for consultancy- Sahel mapping*

Submissions must be received no later than **June 6, 2019**.