

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

(CONSULTING SERVICES – FIRM SELECTION)

***COUNTRY*: Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA)**

***NAME OF PROJECT:* Inclusive Digitalization for Eastern and Southern Africa (IDEA)**

***Contract No.*: ZM-COMESA - ZM-COMESA -489777-CS-QCBS**

***Grant No.:*** **E349-3E**

***ASSIGNMENT TITLE:*** *Consultancy to Develop an Evaluation and Monitoring System for IDEA Project design and implementation of the digital Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Platform.*

**1.0 Brief Background**

The Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa has received a grant from the World Bank for the cost of Inclusive Digitalization for Eastern and Southern Africa (IDEA) Project and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services.

The Project Development Objective (PDO) is to enhance the enabling environment for increasing access to and inclusive usage of the Internet and digitally enabled services in Eastern and Southern Africa. This operation will monitor progress towards the overall PrDO indicators based on the IDEA Program’s results framework related to network coverage, access and use speed, reliability, customer satisfaction, and financial aspects related to the affordability of data packages throughout the project lifecycle. M&E will also monitor issues to do with inclusive universal access to digital services in remote areas and by disadvantaged groups.

The Project is divided into three Components: Component 1 - Regional Harmonization and Planning Platform; component 2 - Regional Knowledge and Capacity Building; and component 3 - Regional Project Coordination and Management.

**2.0 Objective**

The Overall objective of this consulting services include designing and implementation of a result-based M&E Management information System (MIS), aligned with regional and global best practices, that will be used for collecting and providing data for the IDEA project data needs to ensure progress and impact.

The Expected start date of the project is by 30 August July 2025

The detailed Terms of Reference (TOR) are annexed and are part of this Request for Expressions of Interest (REoI).

**3.0 Qualification and Experience of the Consultant**

COMESA is seeking applications in form of expressions of interest from firms to be shortlisted on a Quality and Cost-Based Selection method. The Applicant is expected to demonstrate experience and expertise in project Management with special focus in development of Monitoring and Evaluation Systems. The firm is required to have a minimum of 10 years’ experience in designing M&E frameworks, databases and systems development, with complete traceable assignments. The successful firm should have a team with the following minimum qualifications and experience:

**3.1 Lead Consultant:**

i) a minimum of a master’s degree in M&E, Engineering, Information Systems or related field;

ii) at least 10 years professional experience in designing M&E framework, databases and systems development, with proven programming skills;

**3.2 Monitoring & Evaluation/Planning Expert:**

i) a minimum of a master’s degree in economics, statistics, engineering, finance, demography or related field; and

ii) minimum of 8 years relevant experience in monitoring and evaluation.

**3.3 Data base development expert: and**

i) a master’s degree in computer science, software engineering, Information Technology, or related field; and

ii) a minimum of 7years relevant experience in software designing and programming.

**3.4 Geo Visualization and Infographics Specialist**:

i) master degree in Information Technology, Geo Information Scheme & Technology or related field; and

ii) a minimum of 5 years’ prior experience in designing, developing and supporting implementation of computerized and web-based MIS systems.

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**4.0 Duration**

The tasks will be carried out within 180 calendar days from the date of signing the contract.

The Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa now invites eligible consulting firms (“Consultants”) 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. The shortlisting criteria are:

|  | **a** | **b** | **c** | **d** | **e** | **f** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name of Firm/ Consortium** | **Eligible?** | **Core business?** | **Technical and managerial capability** | **Qualification and Experience of key experts (consultant and experts)** | **Relevant experience** | **If more than 8 firms are qualified, re-evaluate by weighting c and e** |
| 1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3 |  |  |  |  |  |  |

At shortlisting, the Qualifications and Experience of Key Experts shall be included only to the extent specified under Item 3 above.

The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to Section III, paragraphs, 3.14, 3.16, and 3.17 of the World Bank’s “Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers” July 2016 (“Procurement Regulations”), setting forth the World Bank’s policy on conflict of interest.

Consultants may associate with other firms to enhance their qualifications but should indicate clearly whether the association is in the form of a joint venture and/or a sub-consultancy. In the case of a joint venture, all the partners in the joint venture shall be jointly and severally liable for the entire contract, if selected. Potential applicants debarred by the World Bank shall not take part in the REoI. Participants shall unequivocally state that they are not debarred from participating in the World Bank tender or Requests for Proposals.

A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the Quality and Cost Based Selection method set out in the Procurement Regulations.

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours from 09:00 to 17:00 (GMT+2 time) hours.

Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form by e-mail to the address below by **20 June 2025.**

Mr Silver Mwesigwa

Head of Procurement

Attn: Daniel Maimbo

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