



ANTI CORRUPTION COALITION UGANDA

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TERMS OF REFERENCE

CONDUCTING A BASELINE FOR THE STRENGTHENING YOUTH AND CIVIL SOCIETY ENGAGEMENT WITH GOVERNMENT IN UGANDA PROJECT

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Anti-Corruption Coalition Uganda (ACCU) was established in January 1999 and officially registered as an NGO in 2004. ACCU unites like-minded individuals and organizations dedicated to raising awareness, exposing, and advocating for the reduction of corruption in Uganda. Since its inception, ACCU has been committed to fostering an accountable and corruption-free society through diverse initiatives, often with support from various development partners. At the national level, ACCU collaborates with Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) operating in the accountability sector while on the local front, ACCU works with and through Regional Anti-Corruption Coalitions (RACCs) distributed across the country, as well as grassroots member organizations to ensure that voices of citizens are effectively represented across the national agenda.

2.0 BACKGROUND

Anti-Corruption Coalition Uganda is implementing the project titled “Strengthening Youth and Civil Society Engagement with Government in Uganda” with an overall objective of reducing corruption in Uganda through enhanced youth and civil society engagement with the government on transparency and accountability.

The project seeks to address weak capacity of youth in monitoring public services and engaging the government on transparency and accountability issues, limited access to information by youth resulting in a lack of reporting and engagement of leaders on transparency and accountability and limited capacity of grassroots youth, women and accountability focused CSOs to coordinate and spearhead youth accountability initiatives at the grassroots level.

This will be addressed through enhancing youth capacity to monitor public services and engage with the government on transparency and accountability, expanding youth access to information

for safe reporting and leader engagement, and strengthening the capacity of grassroots youth, women, and accountability-focused CSOs to champion accountability issues.

The project is implemented in 9 districts of; Kampala, Wakiso, Mukono, Arua, Terego, Maracha, Bugweri, Iganga, and Namutumba. The project targets reaching 2,700 youth, 25 CSOs, 90 Local Government Officials and 50 Central Government Officials.

3.0 BACKGROUND TO THE CONSULTANCY

Uganda was heralded as a beacon of democracy after the 1995 constitutional process. However, in the years that ensued, a weakening of democratic institutions, electoral irregularities,¹ and erosion of earlier democratic gains has occurred.² In the midst of this, corruption, as manifested through patronage, rent-seeking, and other political corruption has also occurred.

Corruption in Uganda is endemic and systemic, and all indicators show that it is getting worse. Transparency International in 2022 ranked Uganda at 26% and in the 142nd position out of 180 countries assessed. To address corruption, Uganda has enacted several laws³ and established institutions⁴. Non-state actors have also implemented interventions aimed at fighting corruption.

However, corruption has still resulted in annual losses of 2.53bn USD⁵ and Uganda is ranked among the most corrupt countries in the world.⁶ Corruption in part, is facilitated by limited citizen engagement in accountability processes, poor implementation of anti-corruption laws, weaknesses within anti-corruption institutions, impunity, and mild political will.

The Strengthening Youth and Civil Society Engagement with Government in Uganda project will work towards increasing capacity of youth in monitoring public services and engaging the government on transparency and accountability issues, increasing access to information by youth resulting in reporting and engagement of leaders on transparency and accountability and increasing capacity of grassroots youth, women and accountability focused CSOs to coordinate and spearhead youth accountability initiatives at the grassroots level.

It is therefore anticipated that the project will contribute to: Increased capacity of youth to monitor public services and engage with the government on transparency and accountability issues; Increased youth access to information in facilitating safe reporting and engagement of

¹ Sekindi, F. (2017). Presidential Elections Disputes in Uganda: A Critical Analysis of the Supreme Court Decisions.

² Open Society European Policy Institute, (2022). Uganda's Future: Navigating a Precarious Transition and the Role of International Community. Open Society Foundations.

³ These include; the Constitution of Uganda, 1995, the Anti-Corruption Act, 2009 (as amended), the Public Finance Management Act, 2015 (as amended), Leadership Code Act 2002 (as amended), the Public Procurement and Disposal of Public Assets Act, 2003 (as amended), Access to Information Act, 2005, Whistle Blower Protection Act, 2012 and the Anti-Money Laundering Act, 2015 (as amended).

⁴ Uganda also has at least 22 anti-corruption agencies which include; The Directorate of Ethics and Integrity, Inspectorate of Government, Office of the Auditor General, Anti-Corruption Court, Parliament and District Public Accounts Committees, Finance Intelligence Authority, Leadership Code Tribunal and State House Anti-Corruption Unit.

⁵ Inspectorate of Government & GiZ, (2020). The Cost of Corruption in Uganda.

⁶ Transparency International, 2022. Corruption Perception Index. Accessed at:

<https://www.transparency.org/en/cpi/2021/index/uga>

leaders on transparency and accountability and; Increased capacity of grassroots youth, women and accountability-focused CSOs to coordinate and spearhead accountability issues affecting youth at the grassroots level. Against this background, ACCU seeks to engage the services of a consultant to conduct a baseline evaluation to benchmark the project.

4.0 GENERAL OBJECTIVE OF THE CONSULTANCY

The general objective of the consultancy is to engage the services of a competent firm/ individual to conduct a baseline evaluation of the “Strengthening Youth and Civil Society Engagement with Government in Uganda” project.

5.0 SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES:

- To benchmark the status of the different project indicators for reference during project implementation.
- To identify capacity gaps amongst targeted youth hindering their participation in governance and accountability processes.
- To identify capacity gaps amongst grassroot youth, women and accountability-focused CSOs to coordinate and spearhead accountability initiatives at the grassroots level.
- To identify factors that could affect achievement of project outcomes and the sustainability of results.
- To make recommendations in the monitoring and evaluation framework and implementation modalities.

6.0 NATURE OF THE ASSIGNMENT

- The survey will establish the baseline for project indicators and constitute the basis to measure project performance.
- The baseline study seeks to determine quantitatively and qualitatively the current situation regarding youth capacity to monitor and engage government in transparency and accountability, access to information in facilitating safe reporting and engagement of leaders on transparency and accountability and the capacity of grassroots youth, women and accountability-focused CSOs to coordinate and spearhead accountability issues affecting youth at the grassroots level.
- Establish the situation on the project assumptions and risks.
- Based on survey findings, the consultant will make recommendations in the monitoring and evaluation framework and implementation modalities.

7.0 METHODOLOGY

Consultants are encouraged to suggest the most suitable methodology that will factor in both qualitative and quantitative methodologies for this assignment. Consultants will be required to illustrate an appropriate methodology with a clear sampling approach showing how they intend to collect and analyze data from the different stakeholders. The choice of method must consider the capacities of the different target groups and stakeholders in the different locations.

8.0 EXPECTED OUTPUTS

Prospective consultants are expected to provide;

- Technical and financial proposals detailing their understanding of the terms of reference. The technical proposal should also include a clear methodology to be used for the study, relevant CVs and a financial proposal detailing the required resources for this study.

9.0 TIMEFRAME FOR THE STUDY:

No.	Activity	Timeframe	Responsible Party
1.	Publication of the terms of reference	9 th January 2024	ACCU
2.	Delivery of Expression of Interest/Technical and Financial Proposals including the Methodology	24 th January 2024	Consultants
3.	Submission of inception report	26 th January 2024	Consultant
4.	Signing of contract	29 th January 2024	Consultant & ACCU
5.	Delivery of the first draft of the baseline report	26 th February 2024	ACCU & Consultant
7.	Submission of final baseline report	29 th February 2024	Consultant

10.0 LEVEL OF EFFORT

- This assignment is expected to take 20 days.
- The consultant's financial proposal will include professional fees, accommodation and other related costs. ACCU will provide transport to the study areas as well as two staff to support the assignment.

11.0 RELEVANT SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

The Consultant is expected to possess:

- A master's degree in Social Sciences, Development studies, Law, Monitoring and Evaluation, Project Planning and Management, Development Economics or any other related qualifications.
- At least 5 years of progressive experience in conducting similar studies (evidence of experience including referees should be included in the technical proposal).
- Demonstrated understanding of accountability and anti-corruption constitutional and policy environment, national strategies and programs, and sectorial plans and strategies.
- Knowledge of policy analysis is required.
- Strong research skills including analytical and report writing skills (with the ability to produce concise, readable and analytical reports).

12.0 SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS

Consultants who meet the above requirements should submit their technical and financial proposals to the Executive Director, Anti-Corruption Coalition Uganda on info@accu.or.ug or amarlon@accu.or.ug not later than 24th January 2024.