



ANTI CORRUPTION COALITION UGANDA

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TERMS OF REFERENCE

CONDUCTING A BASELINE STUDY FOR THE CIVIC ENGAGEMENT FOR ACCOUNTABILITY 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

Corruption is a global phenomenon. According to Transparency International, over two thirds of countries assessed in 2023 scored below 50%, which indicated they have serious corruption problems. In the East African Community, Uganda is considered among the most corrupt countries, falling behind Rwanda, Tanzania and Kenya. The Corruption Perception Index for 2023 scored Uganda at 26% and in the 141st position out of 180 countries.

Corruption in Uganda is systemic, endemic, planned, syndicated, sophisticated and astronomical in proportion. According to the Inspectorate of Government, Uganda loses Ugx. 9.14t annually to corruption, which is approximately 18% of the national budget in FY2023/24. This has been precipitated by a patronage political system, impunity and a culture that is increasingly tolerant of corruption.

Despite Uganda enacting over 18 anti-corruption laws, implementation has been poor due to limited political will. In addition, Uganda has at least 22 agencies with a mandate to fight corruption, which haven't been efficient due to; political interference, insufficient funding, limited capacities and internal weaknesses. In addition, corruption keeps increasing also partly

due to; limited citizen capacity to hold government accountable, limited citizen engagement spaces, limited access to information and low responsiveness from leaders. This has resulted into; poor public service delivery, high cost of delivering public services, increasing national debt burden, denial of basic human rights, under-development and worsening economic conditions.

In order to address these challenges, Anti-Corruption Coalition Uganda is implementing a project titled “Civic Engagement for Accountability Project (CEAP)”. The project will: Strengthen accountability of state actors in Uganda and; Enhance the capacity of non-state actors to demand for accountability. This will ultimately contribute to improved transparency and accountability among state and non-state actors in Uganda.

3.0 PROJECT SCOPE

The Civic Engagement for Accountability Project is implemented in a total of 8 districts that include; Yumbe, Terego, Madi-Okollo and Obongi in West Nile and Moroto, Napak, Nakapiripirit and Nabilatuk in Karamoja. The Project targets a total of: 7,200 youth; 1,360 government stakeholders; 50 CSOs; 80 Community Based Monitors and; 9,840,200 citizens directly and indirectly.

4.0 JUSTIFICATION FOR THE CONSULTANCY

In order to keep the CEAP project implementation on track and to ensure its effectiveness in achieving the intended objectives, ACCU has developed several tools including the monitoring and evaluation framework and reporting templates. In addition, an indicator tracking table has been developed to measure project progress. The tools are in line with the project theory of change, the development partner framework and ACCU’s strategy.

Therefore, to operationalise these tools, ACCU requires to undertake a baseline to benchmark the project implementation status in order to provide a basis for measuring results. In addition, the baseline will identify factors that could affect the achievement of project outcomes and the sustainability of results. The baseline will also recommend how best the state actors, youth and CSOs can be engaged in responding to transparency and accountability issues affecting. Lastly, the baseline will make recommendations in the monitoring and evaluation framework and implementation modalities.

It is against this background that ACCU seeks to engage the services of a consultant to conduct a baseline evaluation of the CEAP project.

5.0 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 Citizen Engagement for Accountability Project.

6.0 SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

- To benchmark the status of the different project indicators for reference during project implementation.

- To identify factors that could affect the achievement of project outcomes and the sustainability of results.
- To recommend how best the different project stakeholders can be engaged in responding to transparency and accountability issues.
- To make recommendations in the monitoring and evaluation framework and implementation modalities.

7.0 NATURE OF THE ASSIGNMENT

- The evaluation will establish the baseline for the project indicators and constitute the basis for measurement of project performance.
- The baseline study will determine qualitatively and quantitatively factors that could affect the achievement of project outcomes and sustainability as well as recommend how best project stakeholders can be engaged in responding to transparency and accountability issues.
- Establish the situation on the project assumptions and risks.
- Based on survey findings, make recommendations in the monitoring and evaluation framework and implementation modalities.

8.0 METHODOLOGY

The prospective consultant is encouraged to suggest the most suitable methodology that will factor in both qualitative and quantitative methods for this assignment. The consultant will be required to illustrate an appropriate methodology with a clear sampling approach showing how they intend to collect and analyse data from different stakeholders. The choice of method must consider the capacities and needs of the different target groups and stakeholders in the different locations. The methodology will be discussed and finalized in consultation with ACCU.

9.0 EXPECTED OUTPUTS

The prospective consultant is expected to provide;

- A technical and financial proposals clearly 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.
- An inception report with a harmonized understanding between ACCU and the consultant.
- A first draft of the baseline report.
- Final baseline report (in soft and hard copies).

10.0 TIMEFRAME FOR THE ASSIGNMENT

No.	Activity	Timeframe	Responsible Party
1.	Publication of the terms of reference	21 st May, 2024	ACCU
2.	Delivery of Expression of Interest/Technical and Financial	7 th June, 2024	Consultants

	Proposals including the Methodology.		
3.	Submission of Inception Report	12 th June, 2024	Consultant
4.	Signing of contract	14 th June, 2024	Consultant & ACCU
5.	Delivery of the first draft of the baseline report	12 th July, 2024	ACCU & Consultant
7.	Submission of final baseline report	19 th July, 2024	Consultant

11.0 LEVEL OF EFFORT

This assignment is expected to take 20 days.

12.0 ACCU WILL PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING

- Transport to the study areas
- One ACCU staff to support the consultant during this assignment.

13.0 RELEVANT SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

The Consultant is expected to possess:

- A master's degree in Social Sciences, Development studies, Law, Development Economics, Monitoring and Evaluation, Project Planning and Management or any other related qualification.
- 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 anticorruption, 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).

14.0 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 with a copy to amarlon@accu.or.ug not later than June 7, 2024.