



ANTI CORRUPTION COALITION UGANDA

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TERMS OF REFERENCE

CONDUCTING POLICY ANALYSIS OF UGANDA'S ASSET RECOVERY FRAMEWORK

1.0 INTRODUCTION

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

Uganda has been in the midst of several corruption scandals involving billions of shillings, which has fragmented the government's efforts towards sustaining the various anti-corruption initiatives. This happens despite the fact that the country has established anti-corruption policy, legal and institutional frameworks. According to the Inspectorate of Government, the country loses approximately Ugx. 9.14tn to corruption annually. In 2023, Transparency International ranked Uganda in the 141 position out of 180 countries in terms of fighting corruption, with a score of 26%

Corruption in Uganda is mainly caused by; weak citizen capacity to engage government on accountability, limited citizen monitoring of public services, limited access to information, low state responsiveness to citizen accountability demands, poor implementation of anti-corruption laws, limited capacity of anti-corruption agencies, impunity, patronage and mild political will to fight some forms of corruption. 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.

To address some of these challenges, Anti-Corruption Coalition Uganda is implementing the 'Citizen Engagement for Accountability Project (CEAP)', with an overall objective of contributing to improved transparency and accountability among state and non-state actors in Uganda. The project seeks to enhance citizens' engagement and participation on accountability and anti-corruption.

It is anticipated that the project will contribute to; enhanced capacity of Local Government actors to respond to citizens' accountability demands, enhanced engagement of state actors on implementation of effective anti-corruption measures, enhanced capacity of non-state actors to demand for accountability, heightened citizen led monitoring and reporting on public services and expenditures, strengthened engagements between citizens and state actors, increased citizen access to information through awareness campaigns and strengthened civil society capacity to spearhead accountability interventions.

The CEAP Project is implemented in a total of 8 districts in West Nile and Karamoja. The project focuses on tackling corruption in critical service delivery sectors at both national and sub-national level; health, education, justice, infrastructure, livelihood, environment and agriculture, which directly affect ordinary Ugandans. The project also supplements efforts by government's anti-corruption and accountability institutions in the fight against corruption at all levels.

3.0 JUSTIFICATION

Uganda loses approximately Ugx. 9.14tn to corruption annually. Some of these proceeds of crime are kept within the country or sometimes in "safe havens" in the world's financial centres and developed economies. These illicit financial flows are a drain on social services and economic development programs, contributing to further impoverishment of the Ugandan society.

Uganda is part of international conventions that permit cross-border asset recovery. These include; the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) and the African Union Convention on Preventing and Combating Corruption (AUCPCC). Uganda has also enacted laws like the Anti-Corruption Act of 2009 (as amended), that provide for asset recovery. The country has institutions mandated to recover proceeds of corruption including; Inspectorate of Government and the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions.

Despite this framework for asset recovery, the country still performs dismally at recovery of proceeds of corruption. Of the Ugx. 9.14tn lost to corruption annually, only approximately Ugx. 30bn is recovered and returned to the treasury. This has been partly blamed on a weak legal and institutional framework, among other challenges.

In order to inform strategic policy advocacy engagements, ACCU is seeking services of a consultant to undertake a detailed policy analysis of Uganda's asset recovery framework.

4.0 GENERAL OBJECTIVE OF THE CONSULTANCY

The general objective of this consultancy is to engage the services of a competent firm/ individual to undertake assessment, analysis and evaluation of the asset recovery framework of Uganda in order to inform strategic engagements with key stakeholders.

5.0 SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

- a) To ascertain and assess Uganda's current asset recovery regime including mapping to key laws, policies and institutions.
- b) To conduct a literature-based comparative analysis of Uganda's asset recovery regime with selected countries.
- c) To make recommendations towards strengthening Uganda's asset recovery framework.

6.0 NATURE AND SCOPE OF WORK

The prospective consultant is expected to develop a clear methodology detailing how the assignment will be accomplished. Specifically, the Consultant is expected to:

- Review Uganda's asset recovery framework and undertake analysis on key policy issues affecting the asset recovery mechanism.
- Identify policy issues and gaps in the asset recovery framework and make suggestions towards improving Uganda's asset recovery mechanism.
- Share findings and recommendations during the strategic advocacy engagements with various stakeholders.
- Use tools and any other agreed upon methodology that will deliver the assignment in a more efficient and effective manner.

7.0 PLACE OF PERFORMANCE

This assignment will be conducted at the national level in Kampala.

8.0 METHODOLOGY

Prospective consultants are encouraged to suggest the most suitable methodology that will factor in both qualitative and quantitative methods for this assignment. Consultants are 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. The methodology will be discussed and finalized in consultation with ACCU.

9.0 EXPECTED OUTPUTS

Prospective consultants are expected to provide a detailed Technical and Financial proposal detailing the consultant/s understanding of the Terms of Reference - in respect to methodology, approach, tools and financial requirements and relevant CVs.

10.0 TIMEFRAME FOR THE CONSULTANCY

No.	Task	Days	Responsible Party
1.	Publication of the terms of reference	July 1, 2024	ACCU
2.	Delivery of Expression of Interest/Technical and Financial Proposals.	July 15, 2024	Consultants
3.	Submission of inception report	July 17, 2024	Consultant/s
4.	Conclusion of contractual processes	July 19, 2024	Consultant/s & ACCU
5.	Delivery of the first draft of the study report	August 12, 2024	ACCU & Consultant
6.	Validation of the assessment report	August 16, 2024	ACCU & Consultant/s
7.	Submission of final assessment report	August 21, 2024	Consultant/s

11.0 LEVEL OF EFFORT

- This assignment is expected to take 15 days.

12.0 RELEVANT SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

The prospective consultant is expected to possess:

- A master's degree in Social Sciences, Development studies, Law, Public Policy & Governance 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 legal framework.
- 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).

13.0 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 **July 15, 2024**.