



## **ANTI CORRUPTION COALITION UGANDA**

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### **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

#### **CAPACITY BUILDING TRAININGS FOR SELECTED LOCAL GOVERNMENTS ON SUPPLY SIDE ACCOUNTABILITY**

##### **1.0 Introduction**

Anti-Corruption Coalition Uganda (ACCU) was formed in January 1999 and formally registered as an NGO under the NGO Statute in 2004. ACCU brings together like-minded entities and individual actors whose pre-occupation is publicizing, exposing and advocating for curbing corruption in Uganda. ACCU with support from different Development Partners has been implementing interventions since 1999, with the aim of creating an accountable and corruption free society. At the national level, ACCU works with Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) engaged in the accountability sector. At the local level, ACCU works with and through Regional Anti-Corruption Coalitions (RACCs) that are spread out in the various parts of the country and of recent grass root member organisations<sup>1</sup>. This approach ensures that the citizens' voices are reflected into the national agenda.

##### **2.0 Background**

Uganda annually loses approximately UGX. 9.14tn to corruption. In addition, the annual Corruption Perception Index by Transparency International has consistently ranked Uganda poorly in terms of fighting corruption despite government's effort to establish legal, policy and institutional frameworks to fight corruption. Uganda has also been in the midst of several corruption scandals involving billions of shillings.

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 anticorruption laws, limited capacity of anti-corruption agencies, impunity, patronage and mild political will to fight some forms of corruption. The unabated corruption 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.

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<sup>1</sup>These include: TESO Anti-Corruption Coalition (TAC), Anti-Corruption Coalition of Busoga (ACCOB), Kick Corruption out of Uganda (KICK-U), Rwenzori Anti-Corruption Coalition (RAC), Midwestern Anti-Corruption Coalition (MIRAC), The APAC Anti-Corruption Coalition (TAAC), MAYANK Anti-Corruption Coalition (MACCO) and Karamoja Anti-Corruption Coalition (KACC).

Based on this background, Anti-Corruption Coalition Uganda is implementing the '*Civic Engagement for Accountability Project*', with an overall objective of contributing to improved transparency and accountability among state and non-state actors. The project is implemented at national level and in 8 districts of; Yumbe, Terego, Madi-Okollo and Obongi in West Nile and Moroto, Napak, Nakapiripirit and Nabilatuk in Karamoja.

In July 2024, ACCU conducted a capacity needs assessment to ascertain the key challenges impeding duty bearers from addressing citizens' service delivery concerns and accountability demands. This was done in the 8 districts of; Yumbe, Terego, Madi-Okollo and Obongi in West Nile and; Moroto, Napak, Nakapiripirit and Nabilatuk in Karamoja.

The study findings revealed a need for capacity enhancement on: legal frameworks that govern civic engagement; communication skills; resource allocation and budgeting for accountability; establishment of complaints resolution mechanisms; utilization of technology and innovations for citizen engagement and; strengthening partnerships and collaborations for citizen engagement.

### **3.0 Justification for this Assignment**

The enactment of the Local Government Act, 1993 introduced the decentralization policy, aimed at empowering local governments in planning and budgeting inter alia. This positioned them as critical service delivery points that directly interface with citizens. Even so, there have been numerous concerns about the quality, and sometimes complete failure by local governments to deliver public services to citizens. This has been attributed to various factors including meagre resources, weak capacity, knowledge, skills and systems to effectively respond to citizens demands for better services.

Recommendations from the FY2022/23 Auditor General's report highlighted the need for government to address bottlenecks impeding the supply side accountability. Government also spends close to UGX 47.6 billion annually to roll out anti-corruption related education campaigns aimed at enhancing public accountability, identification of capacity gaps and needs of government officials. Moreover, non-state actors have also invested heavily in supporting both demand side and supply side accountability. Despite these efforts, citizens' accountability demands have often gone unanswered.

As citizens increasingly demand transparency and responsiveness from their leaders, it becomes essential for local governments to enhance their capacity to meet these expectations. Against this background, ACCU seeks to engage services of a consultant to provide targeted capacity building trainings for selected local government officials, equipping them with the skills, tools, and knowledge necessary to effectively respond to citizens' accountability demands.

#### **4.0 General Objective of the Assignment**

The general objective of the consultancy is to engage services of a competent individual, to conduct capacity building trainings for selected local government officials aimed towards enhancing their effectiveness and responsiveness to citizens' accountability demands.

##### **4.1 Specific Objectives of the Assignment**

1. To develop tools and a training schedule for capacity building trainings for selected local governments in West Nile and Karamoja sub-regions.
2. To deliver two trainings (each for 2 days) in Arua and Moroto for West Nile and Karamoja sub-regions respectively.
3. To support the local governments to develop social accountability action plans during the trainings.

#### **5.0 Nature and Scope of the Assignment**

The consultant will undertake the following major tasks:

- Conduct two trainings (each for 2 days) in Arua and Moroto for West Nile and Karamoja sub-regions respectively.
- Develop training materials on the relevant themes for the trainings including; legal frameworks for citizen engagement, budgeting and resource allocation for social accountability, developing a complaint handling mechanism, enhancing communication and feedback and enhancing collaboration for social accountability.

#### **6.0 Methodology**

The consultant will undertake pre and post evaluations to determine the effectiveness of the training. The trainings will include participatory approaches like open discussions and group works to develop action plans to test the knowledge and skills acquired. The methodology employed will consider the capacities and needs of the different local governments, and will be discussed and finalized in consultation with ACCU.

#### **7.0 Key Deliverables**

- a) A Technical and Financial proposal detailing the understanding of the Terms of Reference including the methodology, financial requirements and relevant CV.
- b) An inception report with details of how the trainings will be conducted.
- c) The training tools submitted to ACCU prior to the training.
- d) 2-day trainings for selected local government officials in each of the aforementioned sub-regions.
- e) Training report inclusive of citizen engagement plans developed by the trained local governments.

## 8.0 Timeframe

No.	Activity	Timeframe	Responsibility centre
1.	Publication of the terms of reference	October 1, 2024	ACCU
2.	Delivery of Technical and Financial Proposals	October 11, 2024	Consultants
3.	Submission of Inception Report	October 18, 2024	Consultant
4.	Signing of contract	October 18, 2024	Consultant & ACCU
5.	Submission of training tools and schedule	October 24, 2024	ACCU & Consultant
7.	Conducting the trainings in both areas	October 29 to November 6, 2024.	Consultant
8.	Submission of final training report	November 15, 2024	Consultant

## 9.0 Level of Effort

This Assignment is expected to be concluded by 15<sup>th</sup> November 2024. The consultants' financial proposal will include professional fees, accommodation and other related costs. ACCU will provide transport to the training as well as two staff to support this assignment. ACCU will also pay for the training venue costs including meals.

## 10.0 Qualifications

The suitable candidate for this assignment should possess the following:

- a) A master's degree in Public Administration, Social Sciences, Development Studies, Law, Development Economics, Public Policy, Governance or any other related qualifications.
- b) At least 7 years of progressive experience in conducting similar trainings (evidence of experience including referees should be included in the technical proposal), and practical experience working with local governments in Uganda.
- c) Knowledge of policy analysis, analytical and report writing skills (with the ability to produce concise, readable and analytical reports).
- d) Demonstrated understanding of Uganda's accountability and anti-corruption, constitutional and policy environment, national strategies and programs, sectoral plans and strategies.
- e) Familiarity with digital innovations in public service, including tools for citizen engagement is an added advantage.
- f) Ability to deliver on committed outputs within agreed timelines.

## 11.0 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](mailto:info@accu.or.ug) with a copy to; [amarlon@accu.or.ug](mailto:amarlon@accu.or.ug) not later than October 11<sup>th</sup> 2024.