
 ECOWAS COMMISSION COMMISSION DE LA CEDEAO COMISSÃO DA CEDEAO	HARMONIZING AND IMPROVING STATISTICS IN WEST AFRICA PROJECT (HISWA)	 THE WORLD BANK <small>IBRD · IDA</small>
	PROJET D'HARMONISATION ET D'AMELIORATION DES STATISTIQUES EN AFRIQUE DE L'OUEST (PHASAO) - (P169265)	

**HARMONIZING AND IMPROVING STATISTICS IN WEST AFRICA PROJECT
(HISWA) - (P169265)**

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST NOTICE No. 02/ECOWAS/DRS/HISWA/2024

Start date: 02 February, 2024

End date: 15^h February, 2024

Title: Recruitment of an Individual Consultant for the development of a common regional framework for the elaboration and management of a business directory

I. BACKGROUND

The production of business statistics at the community level is a fundamental element for assessing a structured data production system. The availability of such statistics relies on an efficient information system revolving around the following key elements: (1) administration of the business register, (2) management of statistical and fiscal declarations (business financial statements and the production of business cycle indicators on the industrial fabric).

The production and management of business statistics is an ongoing task, in perpetual evolution due to economies' dynamism and the evolution of international methodological reference frameworks in the field.

Within the ECOWAS Member States, some countries do not have a business directory. To have an information system on businesses and the economy in general, the existence of such a directory, updated on a regular basis, is essential. It will enable countries that do not produce the Industrial Production Index (IPI), an indicator of economic health, to do so.

As regards countries that produce it, the quality of the indicator does not allow for comparative analyses with the indices of other ECOWAS Member States. The availability of harmonized business cycle indicators within the ECOWAS region will enable a proper diagnosis of the situation and the development of reliable outlooks for industrial activities.

The lack of financial resources is often mentioned as an obstacle to creating directories and improving the quality of business statistics, but the absence of a harmonized methodology is also a definite obstacle that needs to be overcome by providing Member States with the appropriate conceptual means.

The ECOWAS Commission will, through the Harmonizing and Improving Statistics in West Africa (HISWA) Project, support Member States in setting up a common regional framework for the elaboration and management of a business register for statistical purposes.

Accordingly, the Directorate of Research and Statistics is recruiting a consultant who will be responsible to set up a common regional framework for the drafting and management of a business directory for statistical purposes.

The consultancy services include the elements listed below for a duration of sixty (60) days. The consultant shall work in close collaboration with the officials of the Directorate of Research and Statistics of the ECOWAS Commission, as well as with the members of the Regional Technical Committee.

The activities to be carried out by the recruited expert are as follows:

- Set up a system which helps to develop a national business directory in Member States;
- Define the various administrative sources;
- Define the various statistical sources;
- Propose the various updating methods;
- Suggest methods for assessing the quality of the directory, and;
- Propose indicators for monitoring the common framework development system for elaborating a business register used for statistical purposes in ECOWAS Member States.

The Business Statistics Specialist, in collaboration with other ECOWAS professionals, will support the strengthening of national statistical systems by providing modern tools relevant to economic management.

The ECOWAS Commission is, through the Directorate of Research and Statistics, inviting interested, eligible and qualified applicants (Individual Consultants) to express their interest in providing the Services. Interested consultants must provide information (*documentation in English, French or Portuguese in Word and PDF format*) demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to deliver the services (references relating to the execution of similar contracts, copies of diplomas/degrees, attestations, certifications, etc.).

II. PROFILE OF THE CONSULTANT

Due to the nature of the assignment, the consultant must:

- Hold a Master's Degree in statistics, economics or associated field of study;
- Have more than ten (10) years' professional experience in business statistics;
- Understand the harmonization of business statistics methodology;
- Have a knowledge of common framework compilations for developing and managing business directories;
- Have proficiency in one of ECOWAS' official languages, with the knowledge of a second language being an asset, and;
- Have good IT skills (Microsoft Office: Word, Power Point, Excel).

Applications will be assessed based on the following evaluation criteria and rating scales:

No.	Evaluation criteria	Rating scale
I	Qualification and skills (training)	15 points
I-1	Hold a Master's Degree in statistics, economics or any other equivalent degree in an associated field of study	5

I-2	Have more than ten (10) years' professional experience in business statistics and similar fields.	10
II	Specific experience relevant to the assignment	70 points
II-1	Have an understanding of the harmonization of business statistics methodology	20
II-2	Have at least 4 years' experience in compiling statistics on the development and management of business directories	30
II-3	At least 3 experiences in database design, development and implementation of monitoring and evaluation systems	20
III	IT and language skills	15 points
III-1	Have IT skills (Microsoft Office: Word, PowerPoint, Excel)	5
III-2	Be proficient in a second ECOWAS official language	10
	TOTAL SCORES	100 Points

The minimum qualifying score is 70 points out of 100.

Remark: Compulsory prerequisites to be met include the presentation of attestations of service rendered as regards the execution of contracts for similar missions, studies and/or activities in connection with the assignment. Similar services that are not backed with legible cover sheet copies and signatures for contracts performed and certificates of successful completion will not be taken into consideration in the evaluation.

III. SELECTION METHOD

The Consultant will be recruited using the Individual Consultants' Selection method, and in accordance with the Procurement Regulations for Borrowers applying for Investment Project Financing (IPF), November 2023 revised version.

IV. COMPOSITION AND SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS

Interested candidates must submit a file comprising:

- A cover letter;
- An updated Curriculum Vitae;
- Copies of diplomas/degrees and certificates, and;
- Copies of contracts or certificates for previous services.

Interested consultants may obtain further information at the address below, during office opening hours, **Monday through Friday, from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm.**

Applications can be submitted by e-mail at the following address: cedeo.phasao.ugp@gmail.com, with a copy to **Mahamadou YAHAYA**, Director, Research and Statistics (HISWA Project Coordinator): mnyahaya65@gmail.com; myahaya@ecowas.int no later than **15 February, 2024 at 4:00 pm GMT.**



Mahamadou YAHAYA