

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (CONSULTING SERVICES – INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANTS)

COUNTRY: NIGERIA

NAME OF PROJECT: WESTERN AFRICA REGIONAL DIGITAL INTEGRATION PROGRAM (WARDIP)

Grant No.: E264-3W

Assignment Title: Study and Action Plan on E-commerce, with focus on Women, Youth, Persons with disabilities, and Small-Scale Traders in the ECOWAS region.

Reference No. NG-WARDIP-ECOWAS-431808-CS-INDV

The Commission of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS Commission) has received financing from the World Bank toward the implementation of the **Western Africa Regional Digital Integration Program (WARDIP)** and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services.

The consulting services ("the Services") include the conduct of a study and the preparation of a detailed action plan with a focus on Women, Youth, Persons with disabilities (PWDs), and small-scale traders to support the inclusive implementation of the ECOWAS E-Commerce Strategy. The assignment is expected to be completed within ninety days (90) days.

The detailed Terms of Reference (TOR) for the assignment can be found at the following website: https://www.ecowas.int/procurement/procurement/procurement/ m/intellectual-services/

The ECOWAS Commission now invites eligible Individual Consultants ("Consultants") to indicate their interest in providing the Services. Interested Consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services. The qualifications and relevant experience of the consultants must be supported by documents such as **signed Curricula Vitae** (with references), degrees, training certificates, contracts, certificates of performance, etc. The ECOWAS Commission reserves the right to reject any application that is not accompanied by the required supporting documents.

The evaluation criteria are:

Qualifications and skills (support with evidence):

- Advanced university degree (i.e. master's degree) in Trade, Law, Economics, Digital Transformation,
 Computer Engineering, Development Studies or related field with relevance for the assignment.
- Demonstrated experience in conducting research and developing programmes related to e-commerce, digital inclusion, and socio-economic development.
- Familiarity with the ECOWAS region and its socio-economic dynamics, particularly as they relate to women, youth, PWDs, and small-scale traders.
- Strong analytical skills and the ability to translate findings into actionable recommendations.
- Exhibit excellent communication and presentation skills.



Professional experience (support with evidence):

- Ten (10) years of proven experience in trade policy formulation, regional integration and development, or related areas.
- Five (5) years of proven experience in Digital Trade/ ECommerce.

Language:

 The Consultant must demonstrate proficiency in English and French. Knowledge of Portuguese can be an asset.

The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to Section III, paragraphs, 3.14, 3.16, and 3.17 of the World Bank's "Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers" September 2023 ("Procurement Regulations"), setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.

A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the **Individual Consultant selection method** set out in the World Bank Procurement Regulations.

Further information can be obtained at the email addresses below during office hours 0900 to 1700 hours, Nigerian Time (GMT + 1).

Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the addresses below by e-mail by **February 28**, **2025**, at **5:00 p.m. Nigerian Time (GMT + 1)**.

ECOWAS Commission

Attention: Commissioner Infrastructure, Energy and Digitalization

Abuja, Nigeria

E-mail: <u>wardiprecruitment@ecowas.int</u> and copy <u>pbessi@ecowas.int</u>; <u>abah@ecowas.int</u>; <u>mamoa@ecowas.int</u>; <u>folagunju@ecowas.int</u>; <u>msene@ecowas.int</u>; <u>ikkamara@ecowas.int</u>; <u>sbangoura@ecowas.int</u>.

Date: February 5, 2025

Mr. Sédika DOUKA

Commissioner Infrastructure, Energy and Digitalization

Attachment: ToR of the assignment