

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST N°01/ECOWAS/OVP-HCD/2025

CONSULTING SERVICES:

RECRUITMENT OF AN INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT AS AN ADVOCACY AND COMMUNICATION OFFICER TO SUPPORT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ECOWAS INTEGRATED HUMAN CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT (HCD) STRATEGY

FUNDING: BILL AND MELINDA GATE FOUNDATION (BMGF)

The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) is a Regional Economic Community (REC) of fifteen (15) Member States. It was established in 1975 to promote cooperation and integration, leading to the establishment of an economic union in West Africa in order to raise the living standards of its peoples, and to maintain and enhance economic stability, foster relations-among Member States and contribute to the progress and development of the African continent.

The long-term development of the Community is guided by the ECOWAS Vision 2050 which was adopted by the Authority of Heads of State and Government in December 2021. The Vision aims to achieve "a fully integrated Community of peoples, living in a peaceful and prosperous region, with strong institutions and respect for fundamental rights and freedoms, striving for inclusive and sustainable development".

To this end, ECOWAS has adopted an Integrated Regional Strategy for Human Capital Development (HCD). Under the aegis of the Vice Presidency, this strategy, which aims at making the ECOWAS region the best Regional Economic Community in terms of human capital development in the next ten (10) years, is harmonized with other programmes and projects of major importance.

In order to achieve the objectives of the Project, the ECOWAS Commission is seeking to recruit: an advocacy and communications officer.

The ECOWAS Commission invites interested, eligible and qualified candidates (Individual Consultants) to express their interest in providing the services. Interested consultants **MUST PROVIDE** the information (**documentation in English or French in Word and PDF format)**, demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the services.

1. ROLE AND LOCATION

In collaboration with the Office of the Vice President, Communications Directorate of the ECOWAS Commission, as well as relevant Communication Units of ECOWAS Commission's

development partners, the HCD advocacy and communications officer shall provide expertise and guidance for the implementation of a communication strategy and action plan for the Human Capital Development Strategy, to enhance advocacy and visibility among stakeholders and the populations of the ECOWAS region. The duty station is Abuja, Nigeria, with full-time work for an assignment of a duration of one (1) year, renewable based on performance and corresponding to the duration of the project.

2. CONSULTANT PROFILE

Candidates for this position **MUST** possess the following qualifications:

- At least a Bachelor's degree (or equivalent) in business administration, management, project management or a relevant field, issued by a recognized institution;
- Master's degree in Communication, Social Sciences or related fields;
- Minimum of 7 years of professional experience in Communications;
- Minimum of 5 years communication expertise in at least one of the subject areas identified in the strategic objectives of the Human Capital Development Strategy
- Must have extensive experience in developing communication and promotion tools.
- Must have demonstrable experience of working with multiple partners to develop communication products.
- Must have experience in developing high quality communication tools and products in the ECOWAS sub-region.
- Strong interpersonal skills, and ability to liaise with diverse stakeholders effectively.
- Strong sense of ethics, discretion and perseverance.
- Experience of designing metrics of monitoring and evaluation of communications activity.
- Ability to use digital tools, graphics, and tables to effectively present numerical data and to write semi-complex technical reports/proposals and letters.
- Ability to convey information clearly, in a succinct and organized manner both orally and in writing.
- Experience working with donor funded projects, donor liaison and management.
- Fluency in oral and written expressions in one (1) of the ECOWAS official languages (English, French and Portuguese). Additional knowledge of another official language will be an added advantage.

3. PROCEDURES

The eligibility criteria, shortlist and selection procedure will be in accordance with the ECOWAS Procurement Code, 2021 "Recruitment of Individual Consultants".

The application file is composed as follows:

- a signed letter of expression of interest, including the availability date,
- a recent signed CV, detailing professional experience and similar missions,
- Three (3) professional references (full name, current and previous positions, telephone and email),
- a certified copy of the highest diploma,
- copies of certificates of employment or service provision, as they appear in the CV.

Expressions of interest must be sent no later than 21th April 2025 at 11:00 a.m, (Nigeria time, GMT +1) and mention "Expression of interest for the recruitment of an advocacy and communications officer", and addressed to the ECOWAS Procurement Division at the following address: ECOWAS Commission, 101 Yakubu Gowon Crescent, Asokoro, Abuja, 900103, PMB 401, Federal Capital Territory, Federal Republic of Nigeria or by email to sbangoura@ecowas.int, with copy: ikkamara@ecowas.int; rjohnson@ecowas.int; yderra@ecowas.int.