

AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK  
CLIMATE CHANGE AND GREEN GROWTH DEPARTMENT (PECG)  
REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FOR CONSULTING FIRMS

1. The African Development Bank (AfDB) hereby invites Consulting Firms to indicate their interest in the **Piloting of the AfDB's Just Transition Framework to advance just Transition operations in Kenya and Tunisia.**

2. With the Climate Investment Fund (CIF) support, the African Development Bank (AfDB) has developed a just transition framework to help integrate just transition in AfDB operations, assess project alignment with Bank's overarching just transition efforts, and earmark just transition projects to monitor finance for just transition. The framework outlines criteria centered around elements deemed crucial in the advancement of just transition in the region and serves as a guideline for project developers in the planning stages of a project. A corresponding methodology has also been devised to help the AfDB identify existing gaps and highlight areas for improvement in just transition integration in projects. AfDB's Just Transition Framework recognizes the need for the concept of just transition to amplify or maximize development and ensure equitable access for everyone. It shall guide how the Bank conducts operations in relation to project selection and financing. The framework is divided into four different facets: (i) Facilitating Development, (ii) Sustainable, Climate-Resilient, Low-Carbon Pathways, (iii) Policy and Decision-Making, and (iv) Equity and Engagement.

AfDB is seeking the services of a consulting firm to support the piloting of the Bank's Just Transition Framework to advance just transition operations in Kenya and Tunisia.

**For more details, refer to the terms of reference in the annex.**

3. PECG invites Consulting Firms to indicate their interest in providing the above-described services. Interested eligible firms or associations of firms shall provide information on their qualifications and experience while demonstrating their ability to successfully provide the services (documentation, references for similar services, experience in similar assignments, availability of qualified staff, etc.).

4. The eligibility criteria, the establishment of a short list and the selection procedures shall be in conformity with the Presidential Directive No 07/2022 Concerning the Procedures for Acquisition of Consulting Services funded by the Administrative or Capital Expenditure Budget of the Bank Group. Please note that interest expressed by a Consulting Firm does not imply any obligation on the part of the Bank to include that firm in the shortlist.

5. The assignment is expected to last for a period non exceeding 8 months and the estimated starting date is October 2023. In case of need, Interested Consulting firms may obtain additional information by contacting the email addresses below during the Bank's working days, from 09:00 to 17:00 hours.

6. Expressions of interest must be delivered via email to the addresses below no later than **August 21, 2023**, at 17:00 Abidjan local time and specifically mention **"Piloting of the AfDB's Just Transition Framework to advance just transition operations in Kenya and Tunisia"**.

For the attention of: **Gizaw Kidanua Abera**  
**African Development Bank**  
Email: [k.gizaw@afdb.org](mailto:k.gizaw@afdb.org)

**With copy to:**

[g.phillips@afdb.org](mailto:g.phillips@afdb.org);  
[b.ayissi@afdb.org](mailto:b.ayissi@afdb.org); [k.sanfo@afdb.org](mailto:k.sanfo@afdb.org); and [a.diby@afdb.org](mailto:a.diby@afdb.org)

## **ANNEX: TERMS OF REFERENCE**

### **Piloting of African Development Bank Just Transition Framework to advance just transition operations in Kenya and Tunisia**

#### **1. Background**

The African Development Bank (AfDB or the “Bank”) is a multilateral development finance institution focused on promoting economic development and poverty reduction in Africa. AfDB’s ten-year strategy focus on two objectives to improve the quality of Africa’s growth: inclusive growth, and the transition to green growth. The first and overarching objective is to achieve growth that is more inclusive, leading not just to equality of treatment and opportunity but to deep reductions in poverty and a correspondingly large increase in jobs. The second objective is to ensure that inclusive growth is sustainable, by helping Africa gradually transition to “green growth” that will protect livelihoods, improve water, energy, and food security, promote the sustainable use of natural resources and spur innovation, job creation and economic development.

The Climate Change and Green Growth Department assists Country Programs / Departments to manage the Bank Group’s energy operations in Regional Member Countries (RMCs). Climate change and environmental issues are addressed by incorporating them into the Bank Group supported operations and giving them the visibility required. Climate Change and Green Growth Department (PECG) includes a division that is responsible for climate finance PECG.1. Through PECG.1, the PECG department will identify, design and implement environment and climate change adaptation and mitigation programs, Initiatives and projects. These will either be as standalone or as components of other Bank Group support operations, in particular infrastructure.

Climate change poses an unprecedented threat to life on earth, requiring rapid economic and social transformations that will affect workers and communities and will have broader impacts on society. Over the past decade, there has been a growing focus on ensuring that workers and communities are not left behind as the world transitions toward a cleaner and more resilient future. With more countries and regions setting net-zero targets and ambitious climate and energy goals, it is all the more important to develop plans for the communities that will be affected by climate change and the changes, opportunities, and risks associated with responses to it.

AfDB is an executing agent for several external climate finance facilities, including the Climate Investment Funds (CIF), designed to help developing countries address the challenges of climate change. The CIF provides concessional resources to build climate change resilience and help pilot countries reducing greenhouse gas emissions. With CIF support, the African Development Bank (AfDB) has developed a just transition framework to help integrate just transition in AfDB’s operations, assess project alignment with Bank’s overarching just transition efforts, and earmark just transition projects to monitor finance for just transition. The framework outlines criteria centered around elements deemed crucial in the advancement of just transition in the region and serves as a guideline for project developers in the planning stages of a project. A corresponding methodology has also been devised to help the AfDB identify existing gaps and highlight areas for improvement in just transition integration in projects.

AfDB’s Just Transition Framework recognizes the need for the concept of just transition to amplify or maximize development and ensure equitable access for everyone. It shall guide how the Bank conducts operations in relation to project selection and financing. The framework is divided into four different facets: (i) Facilitating Development, (ii) Sustainable, climate-Resilient, and Low-Carbon Pathways, (iii) Policy and Decision-Making, and (iv) Equity and Engagement. AfDB is seeking the services of a consulting firm to support the piloting of its Just Transition Framework to advance just transition operations in Kenya and Tunisia

#### **2. Context of the Assignment**

The path towards development may not always be sustainable, climate resilient, or low carbon. With development critical to uplifting the African people from poverty and to provide a better quality of life, some African economies are tempted to opt for traditional unsustainable, carbon-intensive operations to drive development. AfDB aims to direct development towards sustainable, climate-resilient, and low-carbon pathways by supporting projects with a sustainable, climate-resilient, and low-carbon pathways goal, or those that reflect these in their operation.

In this context, mainstreaming just transition into the Bank operations would support sustainable, climate resilient and low carbon pathways while considering long term impacts of climate change.

Another aspect that the Bank should consider is promoting appropriate regulatory and institutional framework for just transition by supporting their creation in RMCs or in projects. In its RMCs, AfDB should support the institutionalization of just transition at the proper level of the government. Just transition is either to be incorporated as a responsibility within an existing ministry or government agency or be the responsibility of a newly created entity. In any case, it is important to recognize the multi-ministerial dimension of the concept and the need to articulate the participation of multiple ministries in the established institutional frameworks.

In its efforts to promote just transition, the Bank ought to ensure that projects it supports consider the needs of relevant stakeholders, especially those from historically disadvantaged communities such as women, indigenous groups, and migrants. The Bank should aim to assist projects that engage participants from a wide range of stakeholders and advance gender equality, among others.

The Bank has conducted preliminary work highlighting the need to further investigate what a just transition might entail in fossil fuel- and non-fossil fuel-dependent countries. Kenya has been selected as a pilot country for this project primarily because of its low dependence on fossil fuels and as English-speaking country while Tunisia was selected as a fossil fuel dependent and French-speaking country. They are both hosting the Bank regional staff and currently implementing CIF-funded projects.

### **3. Objectives and main tasks of the Assignment**

The purpose of this assignment is to assess the feasibility of the Bank's Just Transition framework and document learnings from piloting it in Kenya and Tunisia. The main tasks are as follows:

- Conduct dialogues with relevant stakeholders about just transition using appropriate tools including virtual and in-person meetings and workshops
- Diagnose selected Bank projects/ programs through the Just transition lens and prepare review report.
- Develop comprehensive and user-friendly training materials on AfDB just transition framework.
- Develop guidance for the Bank's Staff on how to operationalize the concept of just transition, the AfDB's just transition framework and select appropriate just transition activities.
- Prepare and deliver trainings for AfDB staff to equip them with relevant and appropriate knowledge to make informed decisions regarding projects' just transition alignment in the project appraisal processes.
- Support the identification of pathways for just transition implementation and financing based on the country local context and priority sectors.
- Recommend improvements and adjustments to AfDB just transition framework through stakeholders' consultations and implementation reviews.
- Develop and disseminate knowledge products (case studies) and learnings from the implementation of AfDB's just transition framework in Kenya and Tunisia
- Develop an implementation report on AfDB just transition framework in Kenya and in Tunisia, including a snapshot of projects reviewed, just transition activities integrated, challenges and lessons learned.

### **4. Deliverables and Responsibilities**

The consulting firm will be expected to deliver: An inception report describing the methodology and approach to be used for the mission. A user-friendly training package on AfDB just transition framework in English and French. A concise user guide, in English and French, on how to identify appropriate just transition activities. A training on the concept of just transition and AfDB just transition framework for AfDB staff. At least two case studies per country, including one in the energy sector, on projects abiding AfDB just transition framework with promising and/or innovative just transition activities. A stakeholders' workshop on the implementation of the AfDB just transition framework in each country. A final report summarizing the results of analysis on the implementation AfDB just transition framework in Kenya and Tunisia, including main findings, challenges, and recommendations.

## 5. Reporting

Under the overall guidance of PECG1 Manager, the consulting firm will report administratively to the CIF Program Coordinator and will have functional working relationships with other members of the Bank's CIF coordination unit. The firm will work in close collaboration with all relevant AfDB staff members in Kenya and Tunisia, including the country management team, task team members across sectors and colleagues from the Climate Change and Green Growth department (PECG).

## 6. Selection Criteria

### Experience of the firms

The Bank will make its selection based on the technical quality of proposals, by an evaluation of the competence and experience of the firms, their proposed methodology and the profile, qualifications and relevant experience of Key Personnel and staff proposed for the project.

### Key experts

The Consulting Firm will propose a project team of no more than three members including one senior consultant, one mid-level consultant and one junior consultant. Detailed Curriculum Vitae of the proposed personnel should be included in the proposal. Only the Curriculum Vitae of the three proposed consultants shall be considered for the purpose of the assignment.

The senior consultant should have experience in the relevant areas of the assignment and shall meet the following minimum criteria:

- holding, at least a master's degree in international development, Sustainable Resource Management and/or Climate Change, Social Science, Environmental Economics,
- demonstrated experience and/or knowledge in the field of and issues around climate change and just transition.
- a minimum of 7 years of relevant subject matter expertise with extensive knowledge and proven experience, as lead or deputy lead in the team, and documenting lessons learnt.
- experience providing training on the use of conceptual frameworks and/or manuals on subject matter.
- Demonstrated capacity and flexibility to ensure high quality and timely delivery.
- strong communication skills-both oral and written
- excellent presentation and workshop facilitation skills
- Experience working in Africa, prior experience in Africa, preferably in Kenya and Tunisia.
- strong oral and written proficiency in English and French

In addition, the project team should have internationally recognized transactional experience and demonstrate successful completion of comparable consulting assignments.

All members of the project team, at all levels of seniority, should be clearly identified with their qualifications and relevant experience specified. If the proposed project team comprises individuals that are not regular full-time employees of the Consulting Firm, these individuals should be clearly identified. An Evaluation Committee appointed by the Bank will select the successful Consultant applying the evaluation criteria and point system in the tables just below. Each proposal will be ranked according to an attributed technical score.

The points given to the evaluation criteria are:

	Weights
Consultant's experience relevant to the Assignment	10%
Understanding of the Terms of Reference and Methodology	30%
Qualifications and relevant experience of Key Personnel	50%
Experience with the Bank and International Donors/International organizations	10 %
Total	100 %

The points given to the evaluation of sub-criteria for qualifications of key experts are:

	Weights
General Qualifications and adequacy for the Assignment to be undertaken	30 %
Experience in the individual's relevant area of the Assignment described in the Terms of Reference	50 %
Experience with international donors/International organizations	10 %
Language proficiency (English and French)	5%
Knowledge of the Region (environment of the Assignment)	5 %
Total	100 %

Within a minimum of 3 weeks from the proposal submission date, the Bank shall notify the result to the top ranked Consultant and negotiate a Contract. The objective is to reach an agreement on all points and initial the draft contract at the conclusion of negotiations. If the negotiations fail, the Bank shall invite the entity that received the second highest technical score to Contract negotiations.

The Bank requires that Consultants hired under Bank-financed contracts observe the highest standard of ethics during the selection and execution of Bank-financed contracts; any action taken to influence the selection process or contract execution for unfair advantage will be considered improper and shall lead to automatic elimination from the process.

#### **7. Duration and Location of the Assignment**

The firm shall be available to complete this assignment within a 12-month period, from the award of the contract. The Consulting project team should be physically present in Kenya and Tunisia during the assignment period to facilitate interaction and collaboration with relevant AfDB staff.

#### **8. Method of Selection**

The **Quality Selection** based method will be used for the procurement process according to the Bank Group's corporate procurement guidelines. A formal Request for Proposals will be sent to shortlisted firms after the assessment of Expressions of Interest. The best ranked firm after the evaluation of technical proposals will be invited to provide a financial proposal and engaged to the contract negotiations.

#### **9. Confidentiality**

Any information provided by AfDB, or by any other source concerning any AfDB project or activity or the bidding and appointment of the Consulting firm will be considered confidential and proprietary in nature and should not (except as required by law) be disclosed by the Consultant to any third party.

#### **10. Compensation**

The indicated budget for this assignment is 80,000 USD. Payments will be made upon approval of expected deliverables for the two countries.