



REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK *Human Capital Youth and Skills Department, AHHD*

*Immeuble CCIA, Avenue Jean
Paul II, 01 BP 1387, Abidjan 01 Cote d'Ivoire*

1. The Bank seeks to conduct design studies in Angola and Zambia to inform the development of robust programs that will catalyze the digital and innovation ecosystems and boost job creation with focus on digital/tech enterprises and SMEs in agriculture, creatives and other economic sectors. The design study will result focus on the following:
 - Detailed assessment of the digital entrepreneurship and innovation ecosystem with special emphasis on development of tech/digital enabled enterprises in agriculture, creatives, and other potential economic sectors. Specifically, this assessment will look at – i) Demand driven digital, Technical and Vocational Skills for employability to support Agriculture, Creatives value chains and Digitally Enabled Enterprises ii) Infrastructure gaps and needs to upskill and nurture the enterprises and SMEs in the identified sectors– this will constitute mapping of existing institutions including TVET centers, incubators accelerators, Universities and also looking at ICT connectivity infrastructure gaps and opportunities. The mapping will assess the viability of utilizing these centers as innovation centers for the project and assess infrastructure gaps needed to revamp identified centers. The study will come up with a detailed methodology for selection of centers. iii) Assessment of the financial gaps and services needed and designing of a relevant vehicle to mobilize private and public resources and partnerships for youth led digital/tech enterprises and SMEs in Agriculture, Creative and related sector to ensure guaranteed return on investment, scale and sustainability. The purpose is to leverage public investment to innovatively incentivize investor capital for development of the two-entrepreneurship ecosystem through market-led approaches in both countries. (iv) assessment of the required enabling environment to support the growth of the entrepreneurship/SME ecosystem
 - Design a robust theory of change and operational plan for the program implementation, in line with the identified intervention areas- (Financial and Non-Financial services and the Enabling environment).
 - Assessment of gender equity issues related to interventions and propose targeted interventions to advance equity and quantify the job creation potential for the proposed interventions.
 - Assessment of the environmental and social safeguard issues and propose interventions



- Assessment of the climate change and adaptation issues related to the program and risk mitigation mechanisms and propose interventions for a climate smart program
2. Within this context, the African Development Bank is inviting eligible Consulting Firms and Consortia of Consulting Firms to express their interest and ability to provide the above services by submitting information on their qualifications and demonstrable experience on similar assignments in target countries. (Documentation, references for similar services, experience in comparable Assignments, availability of qualified staff, etc.). This should include a brief profile of the consulting firm, CVs of key qualified staff and consultants, The EOI should not exceed 5 pages. Consulting Firms should indicate their interest in the following Assignment: **Consulting Firm to conduct Design Studies for digital/tech enterprises in Agriculture, Creatives, and other economic sectors – in Angola and Zambia**
 3. The consultancy firm will engage deeply and widely with critical stakeholders (working closely with the technical teams from both the government and the Bank) in Angola and Zambia, to ensure context appropriateness of interventions, ownership, and sustainability.
 4. The eligibility criteria, the establishment of a short list and the selection procedure shall be in conformity with the Bank Procurement Policy and Procedures for the Recruitment of Corporate Consultants. Please, note that interest expressed by a Consulting Firm does not imply any obligation on the part of the Bank to include it in the shortlist. Only the shortlisted consultants will be contacted.
 5. **The detailed Terms of Reference for this assignment will only be distributed among the shortlisted bidders.**
 6. The estimated duration of services is 6 months, and the estimated starting date is 1st October 2023
 7. Interested Consultant Firms may obtain further information at the address below during the Bank’s working hours: 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Abidjan Time.
 8. Expressions of interest must be received at the email address below no later than **05th September 2023** at 5pm GMT and specifically mentioning *“To conduct Design Studies for the tech enabled enterprises in Agriculture, Creatives and other economic sectors – in Angola and Zambia”*

For the Attention of:

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With Copy to:

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