

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

Avenue Joseph Anoma -01 BP 1387 Abidjan 01

Renewable Energy – Power, Energy, Climate and Green Growth

Title of the assignment:	Renewable Energy – Rural Electrification Expert (off-grid and mini-grid)
Brief description of the Assignment:	Lead or participate in the identification, development, structuring and processing of rural electrification projects/country programs to be considered for Bank's financing or technical assistance.
Department issuing the request:	Renewable Energy – Energy Efficiency and clean cooking
Place of assignment:	ABIDJAN
Tentative Date of commencement:	1 st November 2017
Deadline for applications :	29 th September 2017 – 18:00 (GMT+00)
Applications to be submitted to:	f.benabda@afdb.org
Any questions and requests for clarifications may be sent to:	f.benabda@afdb.org

1. The African Development Bank hereby invites Consultants to indicate their interest in the following Assignment:

Renewable Energy – Rural Electrification Expert (off-grid and mini-grid)

2. Introduction and Background

The African Development Bank (Bank) is the premier multi-lateral development finance institution fostering economic growth and social progress in Africa. The AfDB's primary goal is to reduce poverty and improve living standards by mobilizing resources in and outside Africa, providing financial and technical assistance for development projects and programs in Africa. "Light Up and Power Africa" is one of the High 5s, recognizing the central role of energy in the transition toward inclusive green growth in Africa. The Power, Energy, Climate and Green Growth Sector Complex (PEVP) was created to fulfil the objectives of "Light Up and Power Africa" - principally achieving universal access to electricity by 2025. The AfDB and this Sector Complex will accomplish this by building Africa's energy systems while ensuring

green growth. The entire development ecosystem for operational effectiveness, scale, socioeconomic, and environmental impact will be considered fully. Top priority initiatives will include:

- 1) Delivering the New Deal on Energy for Africa, the strategic initiative for “Light Up and Power Africa” goal.
- 2) Establishing the Transformative Partnership on Energy for Africa
(A visionary partnership across the public sector, private sector, multi-lateral players, and NGOs)

The PEVP Complex oversees strategy and policy development in the energy systems space; building alignment across stakeholders and representing the Bank with external stakeholders; developing new, innovative financing instruments; and ensuring delivery under the “Light Up and Power Africa” agenda.

The Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency is a Department within the PEVP complex which has the broad objective of promoting the development of renewable energy across Africa on both a large and small scale, and promoting energy efficiency via clean cooking.

The Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Department is seeking to recruit a **rural electrification consultant** (Consultant) having expertise in off- and mini-grid projects in Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA).

3. Objective of the Assignment

The main responsibility of the Consultant is to support rural electrification projects in SSA all the way through the Bank’s project lifecycle. The Consultant will work closely with the Renewable Energy Division team.

4. Activities and Responsibilities

- The Consultant will contribute to the delivery of the Renewable Energy mandate of 75 million new connections by 2025 (off-grid and mini-grid).
- Lead or participate in the identification, development, structuring and processing of rural electrification projects/country programs to be considered for Bank’s financing or technical assistance.
- Support in screening and selecting priority projects that respond to the department’s strategic priorities and objectives.
- Develop a pipeline of prioritized projects forming a portfolio of achievable priorities as agreed with the department, country teams, stakeholders and management.
- Support the countries in developing sustainable rural electrification initiatives using mobile payment and innovative technologies in mini- and off-grid.
- Work with regional member country governments to enable payment access to electricity products in rural areas, in particular pay-as-you-go models.
- Develop a body of knowledge on best practices for rural electrification solutions.
- Coordinate and structure country programs in Green-Mini-Grid (GMG) and off-grid that require financial assistance, support at the policy and regulatory level, technical assistance and project risk mitigation.
- Coordinate projects that support project developers and private sector investors with technical assistance, financing, guarantees to offset project risks and foreign exchange risk mitigation.

- Collaborate with other donor agencies and lead programs that provide policy, regulatory advice and capacity building to government agencies, as well as sector level support.
- GMG and off-grid products require different financing models than on-grid products. The Consultant shall support building awareness and collaborate with the Bank's internal ecosystem on adapting the Bank's products to the rural electrification projects' needs.
- Perform detailed due diligence of all aspects of rural electrification projects in view of their internal processing for securing financing;
- Work with project partners, the project's team, the climate change and adaptation department and the Bank's resource mobilization department to mobilize financing for the projects
- Lead or participate in due diligence missions and provide technical support in negotiations with project developers, sponsors, and financiers;
- Carry out independent research on the investment climate, project sponsors, management, and economic, financial, marketing, technical, and legal aspects of the projects,
- Build the project's business case; convening key stakeholders; communicating with key influencers; and supporting a policy process that engages key champions and decision makers in the rural electrification agenda.
- Responsible for presenting project's road map progress to the business, gaining agreement for business support for each project at appropriate stages of the lifecycle
- Manage the drafting of project documents including evaluation notes, concept notes, project issues lists, project appraisal reports and other briefs for presentation of transactions to country team, credit committee, operational committee, Board of Directors and other meetings;
- Stakeholders Management:
 - Establish new working relationships and ensure engagement in the formal creation and initiation of programs, projects and their subsequent execution
 - Sets and manages expectations with PERN customers over all aspects of work on projects and programs
 - Produces clear options and recommendations for stakeholders with documented pros and cons to enable decisions to be made expediently
 - Challenges stakeholders to ensure that projects are adequately thought through, benefit rural population and are sustainable
 - Provides stakeholders with performance management reporting on all matters pertaining to the project portfolio
- Perform other duties as assigned by immediate supervisor.

5. Deliverables

- Board approval of at least three (3) country rural electrification projects/programs
- A list of indicators on project's strategic alignment and priority
- A justified priority list of projects
- Body of knowledge report on rural electrification best practices and models
- All required projects' documents and research documentation assigned to the Consultant to be delivered on the agreed time and terms including project brief, project evaluation note, project concept note, appraisal documents, issues list
- An inception report two weeks after assumption of duty, outlining the agreed work program and performance milestones

6. Qualifications Requirements

Qualification:

- At least a Master's degree in Economics and/or Finance, MBA or equivalent with concentration in Finance.
- Additional qualification in energy access, decentralized energy solutions, renewable energy is Desirable
- Program/Project Management certification is desirable

Experience:

- Minimum 6/5 years of relevant professional experience in project finance, investment banking, and renewable energy finance.
 - Proven Experience in program/project management, identification, assessment and management of project risk;
 - Experience in design and structuring of green-mini-grid projects for rural electrification.
 - Experience in developing sustainable rural electrification initiatives through off-grid solar home systems.
 - Strong experience in identifying, structuring projects and structuring public-private partnerships (PPP) in emerging markets or in a developing country context with experience and knowledge in decentralized energy solutions project finance;
 - Familiarity with power project development cycle and understanding of lender's requirements for 'bankability', with exposure to renewable energy independent power producers (IPPs);
 - Experience in dealing with private sector actors (developers, investors and financial institutions), including capacity building and advisory functions;
 - Experience with Development Finance Institutions (DFIs) or international commercial banks, exposure with appraisal, procurement and disbursement processes is desirable;
 - Knowledge of the African power sector, including institutional, policy and regulatory issues, and field experience in at least one African country required;
 - Integrity and ability to work in team as well as independently with few supervision;
 - Must be fluent in English with working knowledge of French or vice versa;
 - Gender and Diversity competence;
 - The officer should also have ability/willingness to become quickly familiar with the use of various tools available and applied by the Bank such as SAP.
7. The eligibility criteria, the establishment of a short list and the selection procedure shall be in conformity with the Bank's **Procurement Policy Framework** for projects financed by the Bank Group, October 2015 Edition, available on the Bank Website at <http://www.afdb.org>. Please, note that interest expressed by the Consultant does not imply any obligation on the part of the Bank to include it in the shortlist.
8. The estimated duration of services is 6 months and the estimated starting date is **November, 1st 2017**
9. Interested Individual Consultants may obtain further information at the address below during the Bank's working hours: from 09:00 to 17:00.

Expressions of interest must be received per email no later than **September 29th, 2017 at 18.00 (GMT+00)** and specifically mentioning:

Renewable Energy – Rural Electrification Expert (off-grid and mini-grid)

For the attention of: Mrs. Fatma Ben ABDA
African Development Bank

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