Evaluation of the African Development Bank’s portfolio review and restructuring policy

Request for Expressions of Interest

1. The African Development Bank Group (AfDB or the Bank) hereby invites Consulting Firms to indicate their interest in the following assignment: Evaluation of the AfDB’s portfolio review and restructuring policy henceforth “the assignment.”

2. The purpose of this evaluation is to inform the revision of the portfolio review and restructuring policy and related guidelines by drawing lessons from the portfolio review and restructuring practices in the evolving institutional environment of the Bank as well as the experience of the comparator organizations. The specific objectives are as follow:

   • Assess the relevance and effectiveness of the current institutional framework for portfolio review and restructuring, both for sovereign and non-sovereign portfolio.
   • Undertake a review of the approaches, processes, format and content of the country and regional portfolio performance review reports (CPPR/RPPR).
   • Identify best practices in portfolio review and restructuring from other MDBs and relevant private sector organizations.
   • Assess the effectiveness of CPPR/RPPR as a dialogue tool to ensure delivery of the Bank’s program in the Regional Member Countries (RMCs).
   • Suggest appropriate revisions to the Bank including area of reforms in the policy and institutional framework, as well as approaches, processes, practices, format and content of the CPPR/RPPR.

3. The assignment is expected to include the following activities:

   i) Inception Phase. IDEV will provide detailed terms of reference and a note presenting a snapshot of the Bank’s portfolio review and restructuring universe as a basis for the inception report. The consultant will produce the inception report, which will draw on consultations with key informants in the Bank and reviews of available documentation to set out preparation of detailed methodological approach including a clear data collection plan and analysis tools, identification of case study countries, selection of comparator organizations (including at least one private sector institution), clear work plan and team members’ responsibilities.

1 IDEV is also known internally as BDEV since January 2017
ii) Data collection and analysis. In accordance with the inception report, the consultant will undertake a series of consultations and data collection. In that regard, the consultant should undertake primary and secondary data collection from various sources including, the Bank staff, relevant stakeholders in sister organizations and the Bank’s regional member countries selected for case studies. All information collected will be triangulated and used for qualitative and quantitative analysis to answer the evaluation questions.

iii) Reporting phase. The consultant will produce the technical report based on four component reports namely i) Review of Bank’s policy framework; ii) Comparative analysis with sister organizations; iii) Review of the quality of CPPRs/RPPRs; and iv) Country assessment reports. Technical report will include all findings and conclusions, supporting evidence and appropriate explanation of methods used. The consultant will revise the technical report(s) based on consultations and review inputs.

4. It should be noted that IDEV would provide guidance and standards on evaluation design and conduct, ensure quality control at all stages, and will be involved in missions where possible. IDEV uses both the OECD-DAC evaluation criteria, principles and quality standards as well as the Evaluation Cooperation Group’s Big Book. IDEV requires rigorous data collection and analysis to produce robust evaluative information. Firms are expected to provide supporting data and analysis to support the findings of technical reports. IDEV uses the technical reports to draft a summary report for the Bank’s Board.

5. It is anticipated that a Request for Proposals will be issued before end of June, with contracting and the inception phase beginning in the second half of July 2019. Data collection missions are likely to be in September/October 2019. Draft technical report is expected by December 2019.

6. IDEV invites consulting firms with extensive experience in policy and strategy evaluation as well as strong planning, programming and portfolio management experience in the context of multilateral development banks to indicate their interest in providing the required services. Interested eligible consulting firms or associations of consulting firms shall provide information on their qualifications and experience demonstrating their ability to provide the services (documentation, references for similar services, experience in comparable assignments, availability of qualified staff, etc.).

7. The eligibility criteria, the establishment of a short-list and the selection procedure shall be in conformity with the Bank’s Rules and Procedure for the Use of Consultants available on the Bank Website at http://www.afdb.org. 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. IDEV reserves the right to define the scope and details of the assignment described here, in the Request for Proposals.

8. The estimated duration of services is six (6) months and the estimated starting date will be in July 2019.

9. Interested consulting firms may obtain further information at the address below during the Bank’s working hours (09:00 to 17:00).

10. Expressions of interest must be received at the address below no later than on Friday 21st June 2019 at 17.00 local (Abidjan) time and specifically mentioning the name of the assignment in the title. Expressions of interest should be written in either English or French, clearly indicating the firm’s
experience in conducting high quality evaluation with international standards and all the references with respect to the assignment.

For the attention of:

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