

# REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

## AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK (AfDB) *Independent Development Evaluation (IDEV)*

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1. The Independent Development Evaluation Function (IDEV) of the African Development Bank, AfDB (“the Bank”) hereby invites Consulting Firms to express their interest in the following Assignment: *Evaluation of the Bank’s support to Green growth and Climate change, 2008-2018* (“the assignment”).
2. The services to be provided under the assignment comprise the design, conduct and delivery of specific building blocks of the Evaluation of the Bank's support to Green growth and Climate change, 2008-2018 and the preparation of the Evaluation Synthesis Report.

## BACKGROUND

In 2013, the Bank committed itself to improve the quality and sustainability of growth in Africa through its long-term strategy (LTS) 2013-2022, at the center of Africa's transformation with two interdependent objectives: Inclusive Growth and gradual transition to Green Growth. Inclusive growth increases the economic base of countries, creating opportunities regardless of gender, age or geography. According to the LTS, Green Growth ensures that progress can also be maintained at a time when Africa is facing a range of local, regional and global issues such as environmental change and increasing pressure on its natural resources. In particular, the transition to Green Growth involves promoting and maximizing opportunities for economic growth by strengthening resilience, effectively managing natural and sustainable assets (including productivity and the promotion of sustainable infrastructure. The Bank intends to support Africa's transition to Green Growth by seeking to maintain or increase natural and social resources. It will support access to modern energy services, adaptation to climate change and mitigation, sustainable management of natural resources (including water and agriculture), and the development of sustainable infrastructures such as mass infrastructures. Transport systems, the use of hydro, geothermal, wind and solar energy, infrastructure and the effective use of cross-border waterways. Such growth will protect livelihoods; improve water, energy and food security; promote the sustainable use of natural resources; and will stimulate innovation, job creation and economic development in these sectors.

In the Bank, in order to facilitate analytical work and progress towards Green Growth, diagnostic tools (marginal cost reduction curves, green accounting, economic cost of environmental degradation), policy instruments (payment Ecosystem services, environmental impact assessment, price reform) and programs (sustainable land management or early warning systems) have been developed. With regard to the financing of Green Growth, there are several points of entry for AfDB support to RMCs. The bank works with the RMCs to

improve governance structures, budgeting and acquisitions, regulatory frameworks and incentive structures. This helps to improve resource allocation, business climate, innovation and efficiency gains. To this end, there is a focus on policy dialogue, consultation services, Economic and Sector Work (ESW) and program-based operations (PBO) guided by the principles of Green Growth.

ADB also manages and houses a range of innovative financing instruments that can help countries further increase these internal financial options for Green Growth. These instruments can help reduce the transition costs for greener development practices and facilitate private sector engagement through public-private partnerships or by mitigating investment risks. These instruments are as follows: the African Water Facility (AWF), GEF (Global environment facility), CIF (Climate Investment Funds), CBFF (Congo Basin Forest Fund), GCF (Green Climate Funds), Clim Dev Africa, and Sustainable Energy fund for Africa. With regard to human resources dedicated to green growth, the Bank has set up an interdepartmental work team on green growth that has developed a guidance document for Bank staff, explaining the purpose of the Green growth and the Bank's strategic and operational entry points for green growth. (*AfDB Transitioning towards Green Growth: A Framework for the African Development Bank, 2014*).

As an integral part of the IDEV 2019-2021-work program, the evaluation will focus on the extent to which the bank has integrated Green Growth and Climate Change\_ one of the two main objectives of its 2013-2022 strategy\_ into its management and operations. The evaluation will analyze the Bank's vision, organizational problems, policies/strategies, operations and processes, as well as its business model.

## **PURPOSE AND SCOPE**

**Evaluation purpose and objectives:** The purpose of the evaluation is to (i) help the Bank in overcoming the strategic, conceptual and implementation issues related to Green growth and Climate change interventions in its Regional Member countries; (ii) influence future strategic directions and implementation mechanisms; and (iii) provide senior management and Board members with an independent analysis and recommendations for their decision-making on Green Growth and Climate change in the Bank. The evaluation combines two objectives of (1) accountability, through determining the extent to which the Bank has contributed to the development of Green Growth and Climate Change oriented interventions in its RMCs and (2) learning, by identifying the lessons learnt on how the Bank could contribute most effectively in improving the Green Growth and Climate Change interventions in its RMCs.

**Evaluation scope and coverage.** In the Bank, Green Growth is a crosscutting theme and found in several sectors such as Governance, Agriculture and Rural development, Transport, Energy, Human development and Water and Sanitation. The evaluation will consider all the Bank's interventions related to Green growth and Climate Change approved between 2008 and 2018. Public and private sector operations, analytical work (studies, ESW, etc.), other activities related to institutional strengthening, and capacity building will be considered. It will cover policies, strategies and institutional arrangements – internal procedures, practices and processes – used to implement Green Growth and Climate Change projects. Currently, the Bank's portfolio accounts around 650 projects related to Green growth and Climate change with a total commitment of UA 23.6 billion, of which 452 are stand-alone projects representing

69.5% (of the total green growth projects) and 198 projects with related component representing 30.5% (of total green growth projects).

The evaluation team will work closely with the sectoral departments and other stakeholders to understand what is working or not working and why. It will focus particularly on the relevance of the policies/strategies/frameworks/action plans, and the Bank's projects, the effectiveness of the implementation processes, the results achieved and their sustainability including the adequacy of financial and human resources, institutional arrangements, information system, learning capacity, and coordination between different departments.

**Evaluation questions.** The evaluation questions can be summarized as follows: (i) How the Bank defines Green growth, the relevance of its definition in relation to RMCs and global developments and how this relevance could be improved; (ii) How Green Growth and Climate Change is reflected and implemented in the Bank's operations as outlined in its strategic documents; (iii) The compliance of country strategy documents and operations with the Green Growth and Climate Change framework at the bank; (iv) The results achieved by the Bank on Green growth; (v) the business model of green growth that best adapts to the evolving needs of RMCs and the Bank; (vi) In the Bank what is working or not working and why? These main questions will be breakdown into several sub-questions and organized according to the evaluation criteria as follows: **Relevance and quality at entry and exit, Effectiveness, Efficiency, Sustainability, and Performance of the Bank and the Countries.**

**Evaluation Approach.** The evaluation would need to draw on a number of building blocks ranged for: (1) Project Results Assessment including quality at entry, supervision and exit analysis; (2) Portfolio Review; (3) Literature and Policy /strategy Review including Benchmarking and quality of country strategy papers analysis; (4) Evaluation synthesis (Meta-analysis); and (5) Four Cluster Evaluations by sector (Agriculture, Environment, Power and Transport).

The services of consulting firm is required for the following building blocks:

- Five country case studies including in-depth Project Results Assessment;
- A Benchmarking report including Policy /strategy/Guidelines Review;
- Two Cluster Evaluations on Sustainable infrastructure (Power and Transport); and Efficient use of natural resources (Agriculture and Environment)
- A Technical report;
- An Evaluation Synthesis Report

**Evaluation process, deliverables and period.** The evaluation will include the following three phases. Additional details about the work to be completed at each phase are outlined below.

- *Inception Phase* – The objective of the Inception Phase will be to (i) deepen the approach paper prepared by IDEV and (ii) assess available background information, identify available data, assess data quality, identify information gaps and finalize a suitable methodology for the evaluation. The evaluation team will fine-tune and prioritize the evaluation questions, further develop the evaluation design and finalize the issues-indicator matrix, prepare and test data collection tools, identify required resources, and agree on the roles and responsibilities.

- *Data Collection and Analysis Phase* – The objective of the Data Collection and Analysis Phase will be to implement the approved inception report and collect primary and secondary data to complement the review of project documents and fill identified data gaps. Subsequently, all available data will be triangulated against the approved evaluation matrix to identify evaluation findings and conclusions.
- *Reporting Phase* – The reporting phase will proceed in three stages with the objective of: (1) consulting key stakeholders on the preliminary evaluation findings; (2) validating the preliminary findings and identifying evaluation recommendations; and (3) preparing the draft and final evaluation report. The final synthesis report will be drafted at this stage and shared with internal and external peer-reviewers, the Reference Group, IDEV management, and then presented to CODE for final approval.

The deliveries of the consulting team will be the following outputs (In English):

- Inception report based on the approach paper (prepared by IDEV)
- Comments and suggestions on Portfolio Review and Non lending activities report (prepared by IDEV)
- Five country case studies including in-depth Project Results Assessment;
- A Benchmarking report including Policy /strategy/Guidelines Review;
- Two Cluster Evaluations on Sustainable infrastructure (Power and Transport); and Efficient use of natural resources (Agriculture and Environment)
- A Technical Report based on all the building blocks reports (*IDEV will provide portfolio review report and Non lending activities report*)
- A Synthesis Report (20 pages) of the Evaluation of the Bank's support to Green growth and Climate change, 2008-2018

The evaluation will be designed, conducted and delivered over an indicative period of six months, **starting end of April 2019**.

**Profile of the Evaluation Team (experiences, skills and qualifications).** The evaluation work will be undertaken by an evaluation team with the appropriate qualifications, competencies and experiences including:

- Balanced and appropriate academic qualifications;
- Extensive and proven experience in evaluating complex development interventions including Green growth and Climate Change or any related field;
- Extensive knowledge of development evaluation designs, and methods and techniques (qualitative and quantitative approaches) with experience in using qualitative data analysis tools/software for coding and analyzing findings;
- Understanding of international development issues especially within Africa context;
- Knowledge and experience in Green growth and Climate Change development and management issues in Africa.

## **APPLICATION PROCESS**

The *Independence Development Evaluation (IDEV)* invites Consulting Firms to indicate their interest in providing the above-described services. Interested eligible Consulting Firms or associations of Consulting Firms shall provide information on their relevant capacity, experience and knowledge/qualifications, and any other information demonstrating their ability to provide the required services (documentation, references for similar services, experience in comparable Assignments, availability of qualified staff, etc.), and on approximate budget.

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 a Consulting Firm does not imply any obligation on the part of the Bank to include it in the shortlist and/or select.

Interested candidates should express their interest no later than **25 March 2019 at 17:00** Hours local (Abidjan) time (GMT) to the email address: Mabarakissa DIOMANDE ([ma.diomande@afdb.org](mailto:ma.diomande@afdb.org); +225 20 26 35 31).