Request for expression of interest (REOI)

Nutrition Advocacy Specialist

Title of assignment: AHVP Front Office Consultant Nutrition Advocacy Specialist to support the African Leaders of Nutrition (ALN)

Brief description of the Assignment: Consultant Nutrition Advocacy Specialist will work with external and internal stakeholders to build high-quality advocacy strategies, campaigns, and narratives. The incumbent will coordinate ALN’s participation in advocacy networks, building a strong partnership and forging coalitions.

Department issuing the request: Agriculture, Human and Social Development Complex (AHVP/AHSA)

Place of assignment: Abidjan, Cote d’Ivoire

Duration of the assignment: Twelve (12) months, with the possibility of renewal subject to satisfactory performance.

Tentative date of commencement: 01 August 2022

Deadline for applications: 14 July 2022

Expressions of interest should be submitted to Faiza Ben Salah via email: f.bensalah@afdb.org.

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE SHORTLIST

The candidates will be evaluated based on the criteria in the table below. To aid the evaluation, the candidates are requested to submit the following:

- A detailed curriculum vitae
- An original written piece (done within the last two years)
- A letter of expression of interest

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<th>Evaluation Criteria</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
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<tr>
<td>General Qualifications and adequacy for the assignment to be undertaken.</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Experience in the specific assignment described in terms of reference (ToRs).</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Experience with international development organizations or NGOs.</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<td>Language proficiency (French, English).</td>
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Knowledge of Agriculture, Human, and Social Development issues across the continent.  

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<tr>
<th>Knowledge of Agriculture, Human, and Social Development issues across the continent.</th>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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Terms of Reference

Consultant Nutrition Advocacy Specialist

1. Introduction

The Bank:
The African Development Bank (the Bank) is a leading development institution on the continent, focused on promoting economic development and poverty reduction. It engages with the full range and complexity of development challenges in Africa. The Bank has integrated operations, lending directly to the public and private sectors through various instruments. It also provides advisory services to Regional Member Countries.

The Complex:
The Vice Presidency for ‘Agriculture, Human, and Social Development’ (AHVP) is a Sector Complex charged with the implementation of two of the Bank’s High 5 priorities of “Feed Africa” and “Improve Quality of Life for the People of Africa.” The complex objectives are fourfold: To develop policy and strategy, to provide deep sector expertise to the Regions by gathering pools of experienced individuals who can be consulted to provide sector expertise on complex transactions, and to develop new financing instruments. The Vice President acts as the spokesperson to represent the Bank with external stakeholders on aspects of “Feed Africa” and Improve Quality of Life for the People of Africa.”

The complex has departments that implement its operational and strategic programs. They include Agriculture and Agro-Industry; Agricultural Finance and Rural Development; Gender, Women, and Civil Society; Water Development and Sanitation; and Human Capital, Youth, and Skills Development. Each department is led by a director supervising several Division Managers and Program Coordinators. The Complex will drive the Bank’s bold vision and focus on “Feed Africa and Improve Life in Africa.”

Approach to program implementation

The ALN is a high-level platform for political engagement whose mandate is to mobilize Nutrition Champions from amongst African Heads of State and Eminent Personalities and forge strong partnerships with stakeholders in the nutrition sector at the continental and global levels. By working with these champions, ALN is committed to increasing the visibility and strengthening the political will to address complex underlying nutrition problems and encourage specific policy and financial commitments to the nutrition agenda in Africa. The political dialogue with Heads of State and Ministers of Finance is expected to accelerate progress toward the achievement of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP)/Malabo targets, the six World Health Assembly (WHA) nutrition targets, and the second Sustainable Development Goal (SDG2), through sustained and increased investment for nutrition. ALN was established following the realization that malnutrition has far-reaching and long-term effects on the continent’s human capital potential. Thus, the need to build and sustain high-level political leadership, commitment, and accountability to invest resources in the fight against malnutrition.
2. Objectives of the Assignment

The purpose of this role is to lead the secretariat’s efforts in shaping and advancing ALN’s advocacy goals in nutrition. The position holder will work with external and internal stakeholders to build high-quality advocacy strategies, campaigns, and narratives. The incumbent will coordinate ALN’s participation in advocacy networks, building a strong partnership and forging coalitions.

The position holder will also lead targeted advocacy and astute partnerships management across governments and civil society to effectively deliver on the ALN continental and national nutrition agenda. In particular, the consultant will undertake the following:

Specifically, the consultant will:

- Review and revise the activities of the African Leaders for Nutrition (ALN) and progress made in leveraging the Bank’s voice and leadership to catalyze greater efforts towards scaling up nutrition action on the continent.
- Review and revise the ALN advocacy plan (with clear objectives, target activities, allies, and clear deliverables) that include an engagement plan for each ALN champion.
- Facilitate a coordinated partnership and advocacy approach, including regular calls, developing policy products, and supporting joint engagements with ALN champions, stakeholders, and partners.
- Serve as the focal point for Nutrition Advocacy Specialist and resource mobilization matters for the ALN Secretariat.
- Engage top-level (policy-makers, officials, academics; multi & bi-lateral funders, and other NGOs practitioners): to gain the buy-in and action engagement in all aspects of the year of nutrition with the aim that Government will adopt and prioritize domestic nutrition investment.
- Plan and support ALN champions in intergovernmental processes and at national and regional events to position nutrition as a development imperative in Africa.
- Manage strategic engagement with key partners and networks, including the AUC, AU member countries, and key advocacy coalitions in Africa.
- Provide leadership on global and continental policy discussions and linkages to the ALN and identify appropriate forums to engage in doing so.
- Organizing and coordinating advocacy/engagement activities, including meetings, steering groups, campaign days, social media campaigns, media/radio broadcasts, conferences, workshops, progress reports.
- Stakeholder mapping, preparing problem analysis framework, identifying paths to influence stakeholders & key messages, creating detailed annual, monthly & weekly plans for advocacy/engagement activities.

Additional Assignments

In line with the Bank’s commitment to developing employee core competencies, the incumbent will undertake or carry out any other assignments, as appropriate and needed, by the ALN Coordinator.
Expected Deliverables
Under the leadership of the ALN Coordinator and working closely with internal and external stakeholders, the incumbent's role includes:

- Adoption of a policy framework at the AU
- A revised partnership and engagement plan with clear objectives and outcomes
- A revised champions engagement plan
- Generate Content for digital and mainstream media to promote a better understanding of ALN and its mandate.
- Policy briefs and position papers based on emerging thematic issues with relevance to nutrition and food security
- five5 events organized

4. Administrative and technical reporting
The Consultant will report to the ALN Coordinator. S/he will work in close collaboration with the AHVP Front Office and with the MEAL specialist, Junior communication consultant within the ALN secretariat, and those managing various crosscutting initiatives. The consultant shall submit monthly progress reports on expected deliverables.

5. Duration of the assignment
The assignment will be for Twelve (12) months with the possibility of extension, subject to satisfactory performance. The consultant shall be based in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire, for the entire duration of the assignment.

6. Qualifications and Experience Required

- Master’s degree in a relevant field of studies such as public health, international development, nutrition, marketing, business administration, economics, communication, or other relevant disciplines.
- At least seven (7) years of relevant experience in Advocacy, policy, and research in food security and nutrition in an international setting.
- Experience in coordinating networks, building partnerships, and forging coalitions, with the ability to represent ALN on various communication groups, fora, and media.
- Demonstrated experience in nutrition advocacy, policy engagement, legislation, and partnership building.
- Demonstrated familiarity with a range of advocacy tools, including the use of social media platforms
- Experience and expertise in developing and maintaining good relationships with institutional donors or corporations.
- Familiarity with key issues in global health, nutrition, and food security issues at the global and continental level
- Mastery of English or French communication skills, both written and oral; ability to effectively communicate internally and externally.
- Excellent problem-solving skills and an ability to work within tight deadlines. A commitment to excellence to meet high-quality standards expected internally and externally.
• Strategic thinker with the ability to focus and prioritize advocacy and communication efforts in line with the external landscape and corporate policies and priorities.

Desired Skills

The Consultant Nutrition Advocacy Specialist will be a creative, dynamic, and hard-working individual with exceptional copywriting skills and excellent attention to detail

• Good oral and written communication skills
• Leadership skills
• Decision-making and problem-solving skills
• Good networking skills
• Ability to multitask and prioritize projects
• Attention to detail
• Knowledge of the Associated Press style guide

7. Remuneration

The Consultant will be paid a competitive monthly lump sum for the entire period following the Bank’s remuneration guidelines for Consultants and commensurate with the number of years of relevant experience.

a. Please attach a Curriculum Vitae constructed based on the template below

b. Please also submit a sample of your writing (such as an article, policy/position papers, etc. that you have written) that demonstrates your writing skills

c. Submit a letter of expression of interest.
MODEL CURRICULUM VITAE (CV)

Title of the Assignment:
Department:
Surname: First Name:
Birth Date: Nationality:
Address: Country:
Telephone: E-mail:

Are any of your family members (spouse/partner, father/mother, brother/sister, son/daughter, etc.) employed in the African Development Bank?

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Language level

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Key Qualifications:
Please provide (i) a summary of your experience and training highlighting the most relevant for the proposed assignment and (ii) the responsibilities which you exercised. Utilize one half-page maximum.

Education (University Level and above only):

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<th>Diploma obtained</th>
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Professional Training:

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Employment Record:
Begin with your most recent employment. For each job since your Master’s Degree achievement, please indicate:
- Name of the Employer
- Type of Activity/Business of the Employer
- Title/Function
- Place of Employment
- Brief Description (three lines maximum) of main accomplishments and responsibilities

Reference:
Please indicate the name and address of three persons with no family relationship with yourself, familiar with your character and titles.

I hereby certify that the responses provided above are all, to the best of my knowledge, true, complete, and accurate. I acknowledge that an inaccurate statement or essential omission in a personal declaration or another document required by the African Development Bank might result in the rejection of my application, termination of my contract, or any other administrative sanction by the Bank. The African Development Bank may verify any statements submitted in this application.

Date: ________________

Signature: