

RESPONSE TO RFP/TOR CLARIFICATION QUERIES

Invitation to Tender; Employment Through Regional Financial Sector Development” Programme In Sub-Saharan Africa

No.	Question	Responses
1.	Does FSD Africa welcome including a field work component with demand and supply side actors at a micro level, or should we focus on meso and macro levels only in our proposal?	The core focus of the consultancy is to help us identify impactful interventions that strengthen the enabling environment for employment creation/income generation. However, we recognize that, in order to do this, there may be justification to intervene at other levels in the market system too, including at the micro level. We are therefore open to considering a rationale that supports intervening at different levels.
2.	Which countries does FSD Africa have in mind for this proposal scope of work? What are the geographical priorities for this initiative in SSA? What is the balance between FSDA at a regional level and your separate country organizations when considering scope and approach?	The intended focus of the programme is regional, with an objective of the consultancy being to identify interventions that we can support at a regional level. That said, we recognize that in order to effect change, interventions may also be required at a country level. We are therefore open to considering a rationale that supports intervening at both a regional level and within countries. At this point we do not have specific countries in mind but are open to suggestions that make sense bearing the objectives of the programme in mind. This could include select countries where FSDs are present and/or other countries with sub-Saharan Africa.
3.	Would FSD Africa want the consultancy to include into the proposal, partners that have the labor expertise and experience given FSD Africa’s inclusive growth and access to basic services mandates?	A key purpose of the consultancy is to define partnerships that contribute to the objectives of the programme and our mandate. Bidders are welcome to include ideas on potential partners in their proposal.
4.	Would FSD Africa also want the consultancy to design innovative initiatives that leverage the support of other stakeholders, or to only focus on designing the approach to engage with these stakeholders?	As part of the consultancy, we would very much be looking for ideas on if/how we can leverage the support of other stakeholders.
5.	Is this an expression of interest or is it an idea pitch for the best idea for the Employment through Financial Sector development?	This is not an expression of interest. It is a request for proposals on how to design a programme as described in the TOR.
6.	Is it expected that the consultant(s) will be resident in the region for the duration of phase one?	It is for the consultant to propose an approach for managing their time, both for fieldwork and for other activities.

	Will the initial 6 months involve spending time in all the Network countries of FSDA?	
7.	You reference your new strategy FSD2.0 in your TOR. While you state in the footnotes that the full document will be made available to the winning bidder, together with FSD Africa's new strategy, is there any material on FSD2.0 that you could share now? This will help us understand the drivers and the desired impact of the new strategy.	Unfortunately, we are not in a position to share any documentation at this stage.
8.	What does success look like, both during the planning and implementation phases? Do you have any KPIs on jobs created and gender impact?	A key component of the consultancy will be to help us define a set of results that are ambitious, yet achievable with the context of the programme's objectives. Yes, we do have targets on jobs and gender within our broader strategy that this programme will contribute towards and which we will share with the winning bidder.
9.	Based on the organization's strengths and experience, what types of interventions/programs would be considered a priority for FSD Africa and SIDA?	The primary purpose of the consultancy is to help us define interventions, taking into consideration our strengths and experience, among other factors. It is therefore not for us at this stage to suggest what these interventions might look like.
10.	What is FSD's approximate budget envelop for the consulting services?	The procurement of the consultancy is through competitive bidding, and award will be made based on the most economically advantageous tender. We therefore cannot announce the budget envelope.
11	Will the consultant have access to office facilities at FSD during the phases?	While we may be able to assist in providing space at our offices in Nairobi for select meetings, we cannot guarantee this. Consultants should therefore plan to make their own office space arrangements, as required.
12	What evidence of job creation activity and over what time frame would you require with your programme to catalyse decent employment creation?	The current funding timeframe for the programme is three years. Results relating to job creation and income generation are expected to be defined within the context of the consultancy, but the consultant is welcome to give suggestions in their work plan on what these might be.
13	Can you quantify a figure of employment creation when associated with the word 'decent'?	By "decent" we are referring to the definitions used by Sida and under SDG8, which primarily refer to aspects relating to quality.
14	Can you confirm what the budget for this initiative is by phases? We understand the overall programme will run for an initial three years and will have a resourcing budget of approximately \$6-7million.	We have not defined the budget according to phases. Rather, we expect that the consultancy will propose a realistic budget sequencing that aligns with the interventions and partnerships being proposed.

15	What is the guidance on the weighting of the awarding of this assignment, specifically- what is the best financial range to stay within according to available budget between FSDA as well as Sida?	The procurement of the consultancy is through competitive bidding, and award will be made based on the most economically advantageous tender. We therefore cannot announce the budget envelope.
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