

RESPONSE TO RFP/TOR CLARIFICATION QUERIES ON FSD NETWORK GREEN FINANCE STRATEGY

No.	Question	Response
1.	cannot see the CV template mentioned in the document kindly share	There is no prescribed template; bidders are free to use their own. As the TOR mentioned, we request that CVs are no more than 3 pages in length and highlight qualifications/experience relevant to the assignment.
2.	Please assist with the following clarifications; 1. Full ToR 2. Tanzania scope of work 3. Tanzania is one among the sub-Saharan African country with emerging economy.... are we eligible to apply? If yes to what scope of work? 4. Project timeline	1. The full TOR is available on the website. 2. This is an assignment for the FSD Network, which includes FSD Tanzania, but there is no specific Tanzania scope of work at this stage. 3. & 4. Eligibility and project timeline are as per the TOR (Sections 5 onwards).
3.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How does FSD Africa defines Green Finance? • Is there a particular focus/involvement on agriculture? • Is there any geographical preference? • Is there an indication of the budget? 	<p>1. & 2. This assignment is for the FSD Network, which includes FSD Africa. As the TOR explain, the main purpose is to support the Network in developing a definition of and common framework for Green Finance that's relevant in the context of Africa and that enables FSDs to build coherent programming on the theme.</p> <p>3. Geographical priorities will be discussed and agreed together with the preferred bidder and the Network Green Finance Steering Committee once the assignment commences.</p> <p>4. 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.</p>
4.	<p>1) Is there a maximum budget for the financial proposal?</p> <p>2) Do you already have a required number of experts and profile types for the project, or do we put forward our own proposal?</p>	<p>1. See Q3 for response on budget.</p> <p>2. The TOR is self-explanatory regarding the invitation for interested reputable firms, individuals or consortiums to submit a proposal to</p>

	<p>3) Do the mandatory qualifications require to be fulfilled by the firm itself, or can they be fulfilled by the combined team put forward?</p> <p>4) When and where will the works take place</p>	<p>undertake the scope as outlined, which includes proposing the team and other resources that the bidder feels are required to complete it successfully. See section 6 (Invitation to Tender) which outlines the requirements of the proposal.</p> <p>3. In the case of bids from firms/consortiums, the reputation and relevant experience of these organizations is an important consideration. As the Assessment Criteria in Section 7 indicate, particular attention will be given to assessing the skills/experience of the key consultants proposed to undertake the study and their ability to deliver.</p> <p>4. A suggested timeline is provided in section 5 of the TOR with expectation that the work will commence in September. It is envisaged that the winning team will be able to perform the assignment remotely, particularly given the current travel restrictions due to Covid-19. If these restrictions lift during the assignment, then it may be possible to consider the option of an in-person meeting with the Network Steering Committee in a location in Africa, in which case, an additional travel budget can be discussed and agreed at that time.</p>
5.	<p>Phase 1</p> <p>1. Section 4.1.1. Approximately how many projects/programmes/interventions exist within the current Network? (average per country network/total across the entire network)?</p> <p>2. Section 4.1.2 Rapid global review. This is a broad remit. Are there any boundaries related to this review</p>	<p>1. While we haven't done this analysis, we do know is that programming around Green Finance is limited to date and is a reason for proceeding with this assignment. Overall, the Network implements hundreds of interventions across a range of different themes. A look at FSD websites would provide more perspective on some of the areas of focus.</p> <p>2. This is indeed broad. We will be relying on the expertise of the bidding consultants to propose analysis boundaries that make sense given our focus on Africa and what we aim to achieve through this assignment.</p>
	<p>Phase II</p> <p>3. Section 4.2.1. Please confirm whether the number of selected country case studies is limited to maximum of 3?</p> <p>4. Section 4.2.2 states "Support the team responsible for developing and applying the FSD Africa strategy for multi-country and regional programming in green finance". Are there tangible outputs required</p>	<p>3. As the TOR explains, our sense is that 'up to three countries' makes sense given that we're in the early stages of our thinking. However, bidders are welcome to suggest an alternative view and give reasons.</p> <p>4. The primary thrust of this requirement is to provide advisory support to FSD Africa's team.</p>

	<p>as part of this support or is the support needed from purely an advisory perspective?</p> <p>5. Section 4.3.2. requires “Develop an outline plan for dissemination of the green meta-strategy and recommendations for professional development in the field across the FSD Network based on needs identified in the course of phase II”. What is meant by professional development and what is the expected outcome?</p>	<p>5. By “professional development” we mean providing guidance and recommendations on how the FSD Network should consider building its knowledge and skills in the priority areas identified through the work. This could include recommendations both on the content we need to know and skills we need to develop, as well as on existing training and other capacity building opportunities available.</p>
	<p>Phase III</p> <p>6. Section 4.3.2 - how many dissemination outputs/materials is the Consultant expected to produce</p>	<p>The key outputs/deliverables for the assignment are defined in section 5. Beyond these, bidders are welcome to propose additional dissemination materials/ options and budget for these accordingly.</p>
	<p>Section 9</p> <p>7. Applicable taxes. Regarding the Withholding tax (WHT): it is our understanding that the Consultant will have to add WHT for the corresponding bracket (according to the Consultant's residency) to the Total Budget, such that FSD Africa will have an ‘all-in’ cost. It is then understood that the net amount received by the Consultant (in her/his bank account) will then be net of the WHT. Please confirm whether this is correct.</p>	<p>Correct. FSD Africa will withhold tax according to the applicable rate and release the net amount to the consultant.</p>
	<p>General questions</p> <p>1. Scope of countries for the proposed assignment. Please clarify how to treat the additional future FSD countries, namely Ethiopia, Sierra Leone, Zimbabwe and members of the WAEMU. Would these additional countries have to be included in the scope of work, especially for Phase II?</p>	<p>The objective is to develop a common framework for the Network that is relevant across Network countries and regions (also bearing in mind that FSD Africa’s scope covers SSA). Ideally, this framework should be relevant for the emerging FSD countries, which also includes Ghana as well as those mentioned. In their proposal, bidders are welcome to articulate any challenges to achieving this.</p>
	<p>2. Can FSD Africa provide a budget estimate for this project? It is helpful to know the budget estimate in terms of planning and resourcing the project since many approaches and configurations are possible, depending on whether FSD Africa is optimising for effectiveness or efficiency.</p>	<p>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.</p>
	<p>3. We would like to submit our budget proposal for this project in USD. Please confirm if this is acceptable.</p>	<p>Yes, this is acceptable. Both GBP and USD are acceptable</p>

	<p>4. Would you please indicate when the contract would start or if there are any constraints timewise?</p>	<p>We anticipate signing the contract and commencing work before the end of September. Delays may be experienced if we receive a large number of proposals, though we will do our best for this not to happen.</p>
	<p>5. COVID19 considerations:</p> <p>a. It is our understanding that assignment will rely on work done remotely, using the Consultant's sector and country knowledge/experience and relying on her/his ability to reach out to local networks in the selected countries. Please confirm if our understanding is correct.</p> <p>b. Given the COVID19 related international travel restrictions in many countries, like the dissemination workshop (4.3.2), will the planned presentation (section 4.1.2) and workshops (4.1.3 and 4.3.1) all take place online</p>	<p>5a. Yes. See also response to Q4 (4).</p> <p>5b. Yes. See also response to Q4 (4).</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>1. We acknowledge the timelines stipulated per deliverables. Is there a specific end date (month) the team is aiming to complete this by?</p> <p>2. Are there limits to the type of interventions the FSD Network can explore in Green Finance? I.e. are the interventions focused around catalytic research and capacity development for example, and away from direct investments?</p>	<p>1. We would like this assignment to be completed as efficiently as possible from a timing perspective but not at the expense of quality. In section 5 we have outlined what we think is a reasonable timeline, but bidders are welcome to propose an alternative (shorter or longer) and provide their reasons. To note that an important event for the Network will be COP26 in 2021 - it will be crucial that we have made some progress on defining our focus and building out our programming before then.</p> <p>2. No. The FSD Network is able to deploy a broad range of tools which, as you say include both research, capacity development and TA on the one hand and grants and direct investments on the other. We anticipate that our Green Finance strategy will draw on a number of these tools, including potentially direct investments.</p>
<p>7</p>	<p>1. Section 4.2.1 mentions "Where the opportunity presents itself this country work will directly support the creation of country-driven green finance programme /project development". Based on this we would like to clarify whether the consultant might be required to develop individual green finance country strategies for the case study countries.</p>	<p>1. At a country level, the consultant will be expected to undertake the level of analysis and development of case studies as described, which include identifying opportunities and linking case studies back to the Network framework/theory of change, but doesn't require developing full-fledged country-based strategies.</p>

	<p>2. Kindly elaborate on the extent/type of support we should expect from the FSD green finance steering committee while executing the assignment . This is in terms of accessing propriety FSD reports, interviewee contacts etc.</p>	<p>2. Consultants will receive support in accessing relevant FSD documentation and in being introduced to relevant Network contacts. This support will be provided by the Steering Committee and the FSD Network Directorate housed in FSD Africa who will be responsible for managing the contract. The consultant will be responsible for setting up and managing their own interview schedules.</p>
8	<p><u>General</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Please share any available information on the expected range of LOE/team days for this work, so bidders know where expectations lie? Or is it possible to share any indication budget? ➤ Please confirm when you expect the project to commence? In particular, are there any timing considerations (deadlines, team access, etc.) that a bidders should be aware of? ➤ Please confirm whether FSDA expects in-person sessions or whether remote sessions are acceptable if Covid-19 risks persist (SteerCo consultations, workshops, etc.)? ➤ o The SoW references some standardization in approach to green finance across multiple geographies. There are different taxonomies in play when describing green finance - please confirm if there one that FSDA would like to see be applied 	<p>1. 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. Bidders are invited to recommend and justify a level of effort that they feel is appropriate given the scope and based on their experience of undertaking similar work.</p> <p>2. Please refer to the response to Q6 (1).</p> <p>3. Please refer to the responses to Q4 (4) and Q5 (5).</p> <p>4. A key part of the advisory support we are seeking is on defining a taxonomy and approach to Green Finance that's relevant in the context of Africa and the work of FSDs, recognizing the breadth of the topic and range of definitions out there. At this point, we have not defined this and remain open to exploring options.</p>
	<p><u>FSDA progress to date</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Please confirm whether the FSD Network Green Finance SteerCo has already been formed? If so, would it be possible to share its composition? 	<p>Yes, the SteerCo was established earlier this year and has met virtually a few times. Members currently include representatives from FSD Mozambique, FSD Kenya, FSD Africa and FSD Tanzania (that's not to say these are the only FSDs interested in Green Finance). The Network's Taskforce Convener and the Director of the Network's Directorate also attend meetings and provide support. This assignment is the first key activity of the SteerCo.</p>
9	<p>1. Country case studies</p> <p>a) Does FSD already have in mind the three countries for which the three case studies will be developed?</p>	<p>1. a) As mentioned in the TOR, Kenya is a strong contender. Case study selection will be agreed with the winning bidder once the consultancy commences.</p>

	<p>b) What kind of support will be provided by FSD in testing the prototype network theory of change, e.g. will FSD set up a dedicated in-country project team to facilitate all logistics and data collection?</p> <p>2. Document request to facilitate proposal preparation Kindly avail the following documents referred to as key references in the ToRs:</p> <p>a) DFID Business Case addendum on Green Finance b) A listing of existing FSD Africa Green Finance projects</p> <p>3. Reimbursable expenses Will FSD facilitate all travel, logistics and accommodation expenses for the consultant's team in conducting this work?</p>	<p>1. b) See also response to Q7 (2). FSDs involved in the work will identify team member/s to engage with the consultant as needed, including making introductions to relevant staff and key stakeholders. Any Network-wide meetings (e.g. meetings with the SteerCo, presentations of the findings across FSDs) will be scheduled by the Directorate/Taskforce. Other logistics relating to data collection, scheduling of interviews etc. will be the responsibility of the consultant.</p> <p>2. a) The DFID Business Case referred to is for the FSD Network as a whole. It is not specific to Green Finance.</p> <p>2. b) See response to Q5 (1).</p> <p>3. Direct expenses such as those mentioned will be covered <i>providing</i> they have been itemized and form part of the <i>approved</i> budget (See section 6 of the TOR for information required at proposal stage). All direct expenses must be supported by receipts. If travel is agreed as part of the budget, consultants will be responsible for making their own arrangements including flight and accommodation bookings. FSD Africa's travel policy does not allow for per diems and sets limits for meals and accommodation, link to travel policy https://www.fsdafrica.org/disclosures/</p>
10.	<p>I. Under the green finance focus, are there specific sectors that FSD is prioritising for example climate smart solutions relating to agriculture?</p> <p>II. Out of the countries in the FSD network, do you have priority countries the framework will focus on</p> <p>III. Are there any in-depth country strategies focusing on green financing that has been supported by FSDA? If so can FSD make these available so that the proposed approach leverages on the existing frameworks.</p>	<p>1. See response to Q8(4).</p> <p>2. See earlier responses referring to geography/country selection.</p> <p>3. The FSD Network has not knowingly undertaken any in-depth strategy work or analysis to date. The Taskforce developed an initial options paper to help guide initial debate which, amongst other things, helped to identify the need to seek support through this assignment. See also response to Q8(4).</p>
11.	<p>Are there budget parameters for the Network Green Finance ToR to ensure we develop the proposal accordingly.</p>	<p>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.</p>

12.	We understand that the rapid case studies referred in 4.2.1 are to cover up to three countries, selected in coordination with Green Finance SteerCo. Could you kindly confirm our understanding?	Yes, that's right. See also response to Q5 (3).
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