 

 REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

 (CONSULTING SERVICES – FIRMS SELECTION)

**IMPLEMENTING AGENCY: COMMON MARKET FOR EASTERN AND SOUTHERN**

 **AFRICA ( COMESA)**

***NAME OF* PROGRAM: ACCELERATING SUSTAINABLE AND CLEAN**

 **ENERGY ACCESS TRANSFORMATION (ASCENT)**

 **PROGRAM**

**PROJECT ID** : **P180547**

**ASSIGNMENT TITLE: DEVELOPMENT OF THE COMESA MODEL POLICY ON GENDER MAINSTREAMING IN ENERGY ACCESS AND IMPLEMENTATION PLAN. REFERENCE NO**. **ZM-COMESA -474552-CS-QBS**

**1.0 INTRODUCATION**

The Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) received a grant from the World Bank towards the implementation of the Accelerating Sustainable and Clean Energy Access Transformation (ASCENT) program and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services. The consulting services (“the Services”) include development of a regional COMESA Policy for Gender Mainstreaming in Energy Access and an implementation strategy that will support the regional goal of universal access to modern energy services. The assignment is expected to take about 150 days, starting in May 2025.

**2.0 OBJECTIVE OF THE ASSIGNMENT**

To develop a regional COMESA Policy for Gender Mainstreaming in Energy Access and an implementation strategy that will support the regional goal of universal access to modern energy services. This will include,

1. To review and analyse the current situation vis-à-vis gender mainstreaming in energy access in the COMESA Region.
2. To develop a policy on gender mainstreaming and energy access for the COMESA region, which will include measures to overcome the barriers and gaps that have been identified in the Situation Analysis phase of this assignment.
3. To develop an implementation plan that will put the policy on gender mainstreaming and energy access into practice.

**The detailed Terms of Reference (TOR) for the assignment *are attached to this Request for Expressions of Interest.***

 **3.0 SHORTING LISTING CRITERIA**

The Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa now invites eligible consulting firms (“Consultants”) to indicate their interest in providing the Services. Interested

Consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services. The shortlisting criteria is provided in the following table:

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| N**o.** |  **Evaluation CRITERIA** |
| 1. | Experience of the firm (Evidence of having carried out similar assignments in the last Ten (10) years which should be in the form of (brochures, descriptions of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions etc.) - information to be provided should include name of assignment, name and full contact address of the client, contract value |
| 2. | Evidence of having undertaken similar assignments in the COMESA region in the last ten years.  |
| 3. | Technical and Managerial capability of the firm |
| 4. | Eligibility (Firms must not be debarred or sanctioned by the World Bank) |

The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to Section III, paragraphs, 3.14, 3.16, and 3.17 of the World Bank’s “Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers” Fifth Edition of September 2023.

Consultants may associate with other firms to enhance their qualifications but should indicate clearly whether the association is in the form of a joint venture and/or a sub-consultancy. In the case of a joint venture, all the partners in the joint venture shall be jointly and severally liable for the entire contract, if selected.

A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the Quality Based S*election method* set out in the Procurement Regulations Fifth Edition of September 2023.

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours from *09:00 to 16:00 hours* Monday to Thursday, on Fridays from *0900 to 12:30 hours Zambian time except for weekends and Public Holidays. Address:* **Head of Procurement,** COMESA Secretariat, Ben Bella Road, Lusaka, Zambia. Email address: procurement@comesa.int

Requests for clarifications can be made until 5 working days prior to the deadline for submission

**4.0 SUBMISSION**

Expressions of interest must be submitted written to the following email address;

Tenders@comesa.int with a copy to Procurement@comesa.int

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ATT: Mr Silver Mwesigwa

Head of Procurement

COMESA Secretariat

Ben Bella Road

LUSAKA 10101

Zambia

Telephone: +260 211 2297226/29; Web: <http://www.comesa.int> Facsimile: +260 211 227318;

**5.0 CLOSING DATE FOR SUBMISSION**

 The Closing date for receipt of Expression of Interest is **16th April 2025 *at 11:00 hours Zambian time***

**NB: Physical submission of EOIs shall not be accepted.**