

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (REOI)

(CONSULTING SERVICES- INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT)

**ASSIGNMENT TITLE: Study on the Impacts of Climate Change on Indigenous
People in Africa**

PROCUREMENT NUMBER: EOI ACHPR/AUC/IS / 02/2024

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST: INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANTS FOR STUDY ON
THE IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON INDIGENOUS PEOPLE IN AFRICA

CLOSING DATE: 27th OCTOBER 2022

The African Union has received financing from the European Union toward the cost of the consultancy service for the selection of Individual Consultancy Study on the Impacts of Climate Change on Indigenous People in Africa.

This EOI is prepared to engage an Individual consultant for the above mentioned study.

1. Introduction

The ACHPR Secretariat as a member of AGA received funding from the European Union (EU) under the Pan-African Programme (PANAF) to reinforce the AGA Platform's role to enhance the African Human Rights System and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services.

This request for the expression of interest is prepared to engage an Individual Consultant to conduct a study on the Impacts of Climate Change on Indigenous People in Africa

2. Background

The African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR) is an Organ of the African Union (AU) established by the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights (the African Charter). The ACHPR's Secretariat is in Banjul, The Gambia. It is the oldest and most accessible continental human rights treaty body in Africa. The ACHPR is

mandated to promote and protect human and peoples' rights in Africa, interpret the African Charter and to perform any other tasks which may be entrusted to it by the AU Assembly of Heads of State and Government. In this regard, the ACHPR carries out sensitization, public mobilization and information dissemination through seminars, symposia, conferences, workshops and missions in execution of its human rights promotion mandate. Within the framework of its protection mandate, the ACHPR ensures protection of human and peoples' rights through its communication/human rights complaints handling procedure, amicable settlement of disputes, referral of cases to the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights, state reporting (including consideration of Non-Governmental Organizations' shadow reports), provisional measures, urgent appeals and other activities of special rapporteurs and working groups and missions. With regards to the interpretation of the African Charter, the ACHPR is mandated to interpret the provisions of the Charter upon a request by a State Party, Organs of the AU or individuals.

3. Objectives of the assignment

Climate change poses an existential threat to indigenous populations in Africa, who often live in eco-sensitive areas and rely heavily on natural resources for their livelihoods, culture, and identity. These communities are disproportionately affected by the adverse impacts of climate change, including resource depletion, habitat loss, and increased frequency of natural disasters, which further exacerbate their vulnerability and marginalisation.

There is an urgent need for the ACHPR to study these challenges in-depth. A comprehensive understanding of how climate change affects these populations would enable the ACHPR to advocate for policies addressing their needs and rights. Such targeted actions are essential for ensuring environmental justice and reinforcing the resilience of indigenous communities, thereby fulfilling the ACHPR's mandate to protect the rights of all Africans in the face of escalating climate risks.

The consultant is expected to conduct extensive research on how climate change affects indigenous people across Africa, often among the most vulnerable to environmental changes. The study will examine climate change's direct and indirect impacts on these communities, including environmental changes, health, livelihoods, and culture. It will also explore their capacity for adaptation and resilience and propose recommendations for mitigation and support. Through desk research, the consultant is expected to produce an original comprehensive draft study that identifies and analyses such impacts accurately, based on the most recent authoritative data.

4. Scope of the Assignment

CONTRIBUTION OF THE STUDY TO STRENGTHENING OF THE PROMOTION AND PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS WITHIN THE CONTINENT

Promotion and protection of human rights strengthened: Understanding the challenges indigenous peoples face due to climate change is crucial for developing effective human rights-based responses. By identifying these impacts, the ACHPR will advocate for and support the implementation of policies and measures that protect these communities' rights, thereby directly promoting and strengthening the protection of human rights.

Visibility and accessibility of the ACHPR increased: Publishing the findings of this study will draw international attention to the plight of indigenous peoples in the context of climate change, showcasing the ACHPR's role in addressing such critical issues. Disseminating the findings of the study will enhance ACHPR's visibility and ensure that knowledge about these challenges is accessible to a broad audience, including international bodies, governments, and NGOs.

The capacity of the ACHPR strengthened: The data and insights gained from the study will enhance the ACHPR's capacity to address climate change-related issues. By better understanding these impacts, the ACHPR can more effectively integrate climate change considerations into its human rights work, develop capacity-building programs for indigenous peoples, and influence policy at various levels.

This study underscores the ACHPR's commitment to address emerging human rights issues, such as climate change, and highlights the importance of a proactive approach to protect the rights and livelihoods of African indigenous communities.

The consultant is expected to deliver the following specific duties and deliverables;

Under the overall supervision of the Executive Secretary to the ACHPR Chairperson of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations/Communities and Minorities, the consultant is expected to:

- Submit a layout proposal - indicating the approach/methodology and chapter outline of the study.
- Collect and analyse relevant information from diverse authoritative sources pertaining to the impact of climate change on indigenous populations/communities.
- Collect and analyse relevant information related to the work of special mechanisms within the UN and NGO's working on similar subjects and how their work documents the impact of climate change on indigenous populations/communities, with appropriate recommendations.
- Clearly identify and analyse the direct and indirect effects of climate change on indigenous communities, including environmental changes, health, livelihoods, and culture, and further explore their capacity for adaptation and resilience and propose recommendations for mitigation and support, with relevant case studies.

- Communicate regularly with the Secretariat (Legal Officers) of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights to brief on progress/ update, receive and incorporate feedback to the draft study.
- Submit and present the draft study to the African Commission on Human and Peoples Rights, and expert members of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations/Communities and Minorities, and relevant stakeholders for their review, and validation.
- Submit the final draft of the study to the ACHPR (table of content, abbreviations list, introduction to the study/aim of the study, executive summary, actual content, conclusion and recommendations, bibliography/reference list), in compliance with formats of similar studies conducted by the ACHPR.
- Present the final draft before the ACHPR for adoption, together with a slide presentation.

ULTIMATE RESULT OF CONSULTANCY SERVICE

The ultimate result of the consultancy service is a validated and approved study that identifies and analyse the direct and indirect effects of climate change on indigenous communities/populations within the continent, including environmental changes, health, livelihoods, and culture, and explores their capacity for adaptation and resilience, with appropriate recommendations for mitigation and support. The study will become a property of the African Union, and the consultant should have no claim over it.

5. Institutional and Organizational Arrangements

The consultants will report direct to the Executive Secretary to the ACHPR with dotted line to the Chairperson of the Working Group Indigenous Populations/Communities and Minorities.

6. Qualification and Experience

- a. Bachelor's Degree or Master's Degree in Law, Climate Justice, Human Rights Law, Indigenous People's Rights, International Protection of Human Rights, Climate Justice, Environmental Law or other related fields;
- b. Seven (7) years or more of relevant experience in conducting research and publications on related topic in the African context;
- c. Experience working with the ACHPR Working Group on Indigenous Populations/Communities and Minorities in Africa is an advantage;
- d. Human Rights Law, Indigenous People's Rights, International Protection of Human Rights, Climate Justice, Environmental Law or other related fields;

- e. Excellent interpersonal skills and ability to coordinate effectively between multiple institutions;
- f. Extensive knowledge and hands on experience of the African continent and the Member States will be an added advantage;
- g. Excellent project management, communications and writing skills are required;
- h. Excellent command of English, fluency in any other working language of the African Union will be an added value;

7. Other Requirements

- Excellent planning, organizing and writing skills;
- Excellent communication skills, ability to work in multicultural environments, and ease in interpersonal relationships;
- Reliable and responsible personality and capacity to work under demanding professional circumstances and in an international environment;
- Excellent coordination and negotiation skills;
- Experience in dealing with senior business executives and government officials;
- Good team player while being independent and able to work autonomously.

8. Duty station and Contract Duration

The Consultancy service is for a period of 20 working days with start date 30th October 2024 and finish before 30th November 2024.

EVALUATION AND QUALIFICATION CRITERIA

- (1) General experience - 10 Points
- (2) Specific Experience relevant to the assignment – 50 Points
- (3) Qualifications – 30 Points
- (4) Language – 10 Points

The African Union Commission now invites eligible Individual Consultants (“Consultants”) to submit their CVs for the assignment in providing the Services and required documents as per the evaluation and qualification criteria. Interested Consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services.

A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the *“African Union Procurement Manual through individual Consultancy Selection Method.”*

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours 8:00-13:00hrs and 14:00-17:00 hours, GMT Time.

Application requirements:

Prospective applicants are requested to submit the following:

- Expression of interest (2 pages max).
- A curriculum vitae of no more than five pages.
- A sample of the applicant's previous work of similar nature.
- A proposed methodology for conducting the research and preparing the Study (1-page max).
- Names, e-mail addresses and telephone details of three referees.

The above criteria to the emails below before 15:00 Hours Local Time on October 27th, 2024.

African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights,

Attn: Executive Secretary

The African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights

31 Bijilo Annex Layout, Kombo North District, West Coast Region

Phone: (220) 230 4361 Fax: (220) 441 05 04

Email: Complete bids shall be submitted no later than 27th October 2024 through email:

achpr.humanresources@africa-union.org