



Southern African Development Community

Support to the Capacity Building in Open and Distance Learning Project

Request for Expressions of Interest (CONSULTING SERVICES – Individual Consultant)

For

Consultant to Develop Quality Assurance Guidelines for Educational Institutions

Education Sector

Financing Agreement reference: Grant N^o: 21 00155008617

The Southern African Development Community (SADC) Secretariat has received financing from the African Development Fund toward the cost of the Support to the Capacity Building in Open and Distance Learning Project and intends to apply part of the agreed amount for this grant to payments under the contract for Developing Guidelines for Quality Assurance for Educational Institutions.

Against this Background, the SADC Secretariat, through the Directorate of Social and Human Resources & Special Programmes is implementing a Capacity Building in Open and Distance Learning (ODL) Project through the support of the African Development Bank (AfDB). The Purpose of the Project is to contribute to the regional integration through development and deployment of effective, harmonised quality open and distance learning in the SADC region. Despite the commitment of many Governments to provision of quality education and training at all levels of education using both the face to face and open and distance learning (ODL) methodologies, the development of ODL in the region is constrained by, among other factors, gender inequalities, low level of political support, shortage of professionally trained staff to plan, develop and manage ODL programmes, limited budgets, lack of policy frameworks to support and guide the development of this important mode of educational and training delivery and lack of quality assurance mechanisms to ensure quality delivery in the ODL.

SADC Secretariat through the SADC ODL Project is seeking Consultant to develop Guidelines for Quality Assurance for Educational Institutions. The purpose of the consultancy is to develop comprehensive Regional ODL Quality Assurance Guidelines covering secondary education, teacher education, higher education and technical vocational education and training.

SADC Secretariat now invites eligible Individual Consultants to indicate their interest in providing these services. Interested Individual Consultants must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services (expression of interest cover letter, curriculum vitae, certified copies of evidence of professional and academic qualifications, etc).

Eligibility criteria, establishment of the short-list and the selection procedure shall be in accordance with the African Development Bank's "**Rules and Procedures for the use of Consultants**" May 2008, which is available on the Bank's website at <http://www.afdb.org>. SADC Secretariat is under no obligation to shortlist any consultant who expresses interest.

Interested Individual Consultants may obtain detailed terms of reference for the assignment at the address below during office hours 08.00 to 12.30 and 14.00 to 16.30 hours local time, Mondays to Fridays excluding Public Holidays, or send a request at the email address shown below.

Expressions of interest must be delivered to the address below by **30th August 2013** at 10H00, Botswana Time (GMT+2) and indicate "**Developing Guidelines for Quality Assurance in Educational Institutions.**"

Or you may send your expression of interest to the email address shown below.

Attention: Procurement Expert
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