



REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (CONSULTING SERVICES)

TRIPARTITE CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAMME (TCBP)

The **Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA)** has received financing from the **African Development Bank** toward the cost of the Tripartite Capacity Building Programme (TCBP), and intends to apply part of the agreed amount for this grant to payments under the contract for **Consultancy services to carry out a survey on Develop Capacities in Industrial Statistics Systems and Management Capabilities in the Tripartite Free Trade Area.**

The main objective of the study is to undertake survey and assess industrial statistics and information management systems in the Tripartite Area with the view to formulating a programme to address the identified gaps. The survey data and information the next process of developing comprehensive industrial databases at national and Regional levels as well as providing the basis for technical support for Tripartite Countries (T-Countries) to build their capacity to collect, compile and disseminate international comparable industrial statistics.

Scope of Work of Assignment:

The consultancy firm shall carry out the baseline survey and provide technical assistance to the Tripartite-RECs and Member/Partner States in the implementation of the findings of the baseline survey. Specifically the Consultancy firm will:

- (a) Carry out extensive literature surveys, hold consultations with client T-REC countries and prepare inception report detailing the plan for the study;
- (b) Conduct a survey in the tripartite member countries to establish industrial statistics collection, compilation and dissemination, and SBR capabilities based on international standards and methodologies. This aspect will include:
 - (i) documentation of current status of industrial statistics systems in place, industrial data availability and coverage, and capabilities for data utilization/analysis and gaps etc.;
 - (ii) evaluation of the effectiveness, successes, operational issues or limitations of current systems and their overall coherence & coordination at national and regional level, highlighting any inadequacies in the current systems and interventions to remedy the situation;

- (c) Assess and identify industrial statistics collection, management; and utilization, and SBR needs including the required mechanisms to support timely and cost effective data collection, management and dissemination at national level;
- (d) Assess the HR capacities and capabilities of the national industrial statistic actors (in terms of data collection, processing, retrieval, utilization/analysis, dissemination etc.), outlining strengths, and areas of inadequacies etc;
- (e) Assess the required infrastructure and /or software to facilitate dissemination and timely access to industrial data across Tripartite Members/Partner States, and any procedural issues which may be required to be put in place;
- (f) Assess and explore the scope, need and value added for a regional integrated industrial statistics intelligence unit/industrial observatory at REC level taking into consideration among others:
 - Need for continuous analysis of industrial data to inform negotiation process in the Tripartite as well as wider policy decision making;
 - Coordinated review and updating of national industrial statistics databases;
 - Provision of technical assistance to support members countries in designing sectoral plans and roadmaps;
 - Generation of policy briefs on topical industry and trade matters to inform negotiations processes;
- (g) Based on (a)-(d) above, prepare a costed programme of measures to strengthen industrial data collection, compilation, management and dissemination; and utilization/analysis capabilities in the Tripartite Area;
- (h) Present technical reports and action plans of the baseline survey to Expert Group meetings and Tripartite Task Force.

Requirements and Qualifications:

The consultancy firm or a consortium of firms should meet the following requirements:

- (i) Must have been incorporated and have experience of at least 15 years in industrial and trade development work, including in an industrial policy formulation and regional integration environment;
- (ii) The team leader should be an Industrial Economist/Statistician, with an advanced (PhD, MSc, MA) degree in Statistics or Economics or any related field, with wide experience (15 years) in industrial statistics and applied industrial policy work environment, and a well-established track-record in assessing and assisting countries in developing industrial statistics, statistical business registers. He/she should also have relevant management experience in industrial statistic needs assessment, design, implementation and evaluation of statistical programs.
- (iii) The support experts should hold a Degree in statistics or economics or industrial policy or Engineering, manufacturing or any related field with a well-established track record in areas related to the implementation of statistical and industrial

development programs. Additional experience at developing statistical business registers will be necessary among the support experts.

- (iv) All team members must also have proven analytical skills as well as written and presentational skills and have the capability to work in complex multi-country environments.
- (v) The study team should have wide knowledge of the Tripartite regional cooperation and integration agendas and continental industrial development frameworks ;
- (vi) Demonstrate experience in carrying out industrial surveys, design and development of business registers, and compilation of industrial statistics in accordance with international best practices;
- (vii) Demonstrate capacity to undertake training and capacity building in the area of industrial statistics and information management; and
- (viii) Knowledge of French is a requirement for at least one consultant in the team composition.

The **Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA)** now invites eligible consultants to indicate their interest in providing these services. Interested consultants must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services (brochures, description of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions, availability of appropriate skills among staff, etc.). Consultants may constitute joint-ventures to enhance their chances of qualification.

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, Revised July 2012***, which is available on the Bank's website at <http://www.afdb.org>.

Interested consultants may obtain further information at the address below during office hours from Monday to Friday, 08:00 hours to 17:00 hours.

Expressions of interest must be delivered to the address below by **19th September 2014 at 15:00hrs** and mention **"Expression of Interest for Consultancy Services to Carry out a Survey on Develop Capacities in Industrial Statistics Systems and Management Capabilities in the Tripartite Free Trade Area"**.

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