

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (REOI) (CONSULTING SERVICES-SELECTION BASED ON THE CONSULTANTS' QUALIFICATIONS)

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| NAME OF THE PROJECT: | EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICA HIGHER EDUCATION CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE PROJECT (ACE II) | | |
| LOAN NO. / CREDIT NO. / IDA GRANT NO: | D1150-3E | PROJECT ID: P151847 | |
| ASSIGNMENT TITLE: | INDEPENDENT VERIFIER OF DISBURSEMENT LINKED INDICATORS AND RESULTS (DLIS/ DLRS) | | |

PROCUREMENT REFERENCE NO: IUCEA/PROC/CONS/16-17/005

The Inter-University Council for East Africa (IUCEA) has received funding from the World Bank towards the cost of implementing the Eastern and Southern Africa Higher Education Centers of Excellence Project (ACE II) in collaboration with 8 participating countries. Part of the financing is to hire consultancy services to independently verify compliance and achievement of disbursement linked indicators and results (DLIS/DLRS).

The objective of ACE II is to support selected Eastern and Southern African higher education institutions to deliver quality post-graduate education and build collaborative research capacity in the regional priority areas. IUCEA as the Regional Facilitation Unit (RFU) for ACE II, is seeking to hire a firm to independently analyse and verify achievement of ACE II Project results.

The IUCEA/ RFU hereby invites eligible consulting firms to indicate their interest in providing the Services. Interested Consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications, relevant experience as well as technical and managerial capacity to perform the Services. **The shortlisting criteria are as follows:**

1. The consultancy firm must have successfully implemented at least two (02) contracts with similar nature, scope and value.
2. Availability of appropriate skills/expertise among the consultant's staff including expertise in Financial Management, Business Administration & Economics, Auditing, Higher Education functioning and Research experience and evaluation of projects in Science disciplines and M&E experience.
3. Experience of at least two (02) assignments in Sub Saharan Africa or regions.

The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to paragraph 1.9 of the World Bank's Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits & Grants by World Bank Borrowers, from January 2011 and revised in July 2014 ("Consultant Guidelines"), setting forth the World Bank's policy on the Conflict of Interests.

Consultants may associate with other firms in the form of joint venture or a sub consultancy to enhance their qualifications. The type of association whether joint venture or a sub consultancy must be clearly indicated in the Expression of Interest.

SELECTION OF THE CONSULTANT FIRM: A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the selection based on the Consultants' Qualifications Selection method set out in the Consultant Guidelines, January 2011 and revised in July 2014.

Expression of Interest must be delivered in a hard copy to the address below in person, or registered mail or by e-mail. Write to exsec@iucea.org. **and give a copy to two e-mails: procurement@iucea.org and ace2rfu@iucea.org by April 6, 2017.** A notification that the application has been received will be sent to the applicant's address.

The Planned Procurement schedule (subject to changes) is as follows:

| No | Activity | Date |
|----|--|------------------------------|
| a | Publication Date | 22 nd March 2017 |
| b | Closing Date for submission of EOJ | 06 th April 2017 |
| c | Short listing process and Approvals | 21 st April 2017 |
| d | Issue of RFP document | 5 th May 2017 |
| e | Closing Date for submission of proposals and Opening of Technical proposal | 7 th June 2017 |
| f | Evaluation of Technical and Financial Proposals | 28 th June 2017 |
| g | Approvals, Negotiations and Contracting | 18 th August 2017 |

THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY:

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Ethiopia Kenya Malawi Mozambique Rwanda Tanzania Uganda Zambia