



**TERMS OF REFERENCE:**

**CONSULTANT TO CONDUCT ANALYSIS OF NATIONAL YOUTH STRATEGIES ACROSS YOUTHCONNEKT MEMBER STATES**

	CONSULTANT TO CONDUCT ANALYSIS OF NATIONAL YOUTH STRATEGIES ACROSS YOUTHCONNEKT MEMBER STATES (21)
	Remote - Africa
<b>Type of contract</b>	Consultant
<b>Languages Required:</b>	English and French
	60 days
<b>Expected starting date</b>	Aug 2021
<b>Expected closing date</b>	Oct 2021

**1. BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT**

A new emergent and integrated Africa can only be fully realized if its demographic advantage “large population of youth” is mobilized and equipped to help drive Africa’s integration, peace and development agenda. This vision emanates from the belief and conviction that a strong and accountable leadership and successful integration needs to be anchored on participation; the investment in youth; and mainstream the great potential of the population of which the Youth are an essential pillar.

Against the foregoing and in light of the great potential, dynamism, resourcefulness, resiliency, and aspirations of African youth, the continent continues to face daunting challenges of maximizing benefits from this critical social capital by for example, adequately investing in youth empowerment and development. The African Population is estimated to be more than a billion people of whom over 60% are young men and women under the age 35. The majority of African youth continue to

face: unemployment, underemployment, lack of skills, relevant education, access to capital, unmet need for health-related information and services including those related to diagnosis, treatment, and care of those living with HIV and, above all, prevention of new HIV infections among them. This situation is even more accentuated among youth in rural areas. The greater proportion of youth does not have the opportunity to fully develop its potential and contribute effectively to the realization of the declared Vision and the Mission of Africa's leaders. Along with other groups including women and the disabled, youth bear the brunt of internal and external crisis, be it those related to economic decline, food crisis, climate change and human insecurity amongst others. In addition, many disadvantaged youth are unwittingly conscripted into armed struggle, used to settle political scores and are exposed to various negative media that erode their positive heritage- leading them to delinquency, drug use, and other risky behaviour. Furthermore, and as it is well known, most youth that migrate to foreign countries or even within the continent, in search of greener pastures, also face exploitation, extreme abuse and mistreatments among other things.

Africa needs deliberate efforts to accelerate social development that give high priority to youth empowerment and development. This is also a sine qua non-condition for sustained economic growth.

At national level, there is full recognition of the dire challenges and great opportunities of youth and most African countries are making efforts to involve young people in political and decision-making processes, as reflected in the establishment of national youth parliaments and youth appointment in executive positions and consultation with young people on policies and programmes that affect their lives. At regional and continental levels, Youth networks have been established including the Pan African Youth Union to serve as a channel for youth engagement and for conveying youth perspectives for integration into national, regional and continental policies, strategies and programmes. Most African countries have youth related policies and programs. The same is the case with the Regional Economic Communities (RECs).

At continental level among other things, African leaders adopted and approved the African Youth Charter in 2006, which as of date 37 countries have signed and 24 have also ratified. The Youth Charter, which entered into force on 8 August 2010, is a comprehensive framework that addresses the rights and obligations of young people. It also constitutes the social contract between the State and the Youths that responds to the priority needs regarding their empowerment and development. Member States under the Charter are obliged to develop and implement comprehensive, integrated and cross-sectoral Youth Policies and programs with the active involvement of young people. Such policy and program development process needs to be underpinned by the mainstreaming youth perspectives into broader development goals and priorities, and investing in a meaningful participation and contribution of young people towards Africa's progress and sustenance of current gains. Despite the ratification of the AYC, many member states are struggling to effectively implement it due to various contextual challenges.

The YouthConnekt Africa Hub as a regional ecosystem partner that supports Governments and national ecosystems, is mandated to support in an advisory capacity with the modelling and adaptation of policies that meet the changing demands and contexts of nations. Through working with national chapters, the YouthConnekt also develops knowledge from emerging best practices and successful programs that have demonstrated scalable solutions to the issues pertaining youth socio-economic transformation in Africa. To date, the YouthConnekt counts 20 national chapters namely: Liberia, Uganda, Sierra Leone, Republic of the Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Zimbabwe, Zambia. The Gambia, Cameroon, Cabo Verde, Togo, Ghana, Burkina Faso, Senegal, Guinea (Conakry), Madagascar, Sao Tome, Ethiopia, Mali and Rwanda.

It is against this backdrop that YouthConnekt Africa is endeavouring with UNESCO to conduct an analysis on national youth strategies. This national youth analysis will contribute to the development and implementation of policy reforms, institutional capacity building, monitoring and evaluation and resource mobilization.

## 2. OBJECTIVE, SCOPE OF WORK AND RESPONSIBILITIES

### Objective & Scope

The objectives of the analysis of national youth strategies are to support governments, international organizations, UN agencies, Civil society organizations, private sector and donors to collaborate to:

- A. Identify and assess the level of implementation of national youth strategies in countries, for the operationalization and implementation of the AYC
- B. Establish a benchmark of standards, indicative criteria and accountability in the design, implementation and monitoring of youth development policies, programmes and activities;

### Responsibilities

More specifically, the assignment should consist of, but not necessarily be limited to the following main tasks:

- Development of an adapted and coherent framework for review of national youth policies and their implementation that reflects AU Youth Charter and Current Contexts.
- Proposal of key indicators that measure youth development across within the African context.
- Review of National Youth Policies considering new realities Post COVID 19 at local, national and regional level.
- In the absence of a National Youth Policy, the consultant will review the key existing policies that affect youth socio-economic transformation
- Review of the implementation of the Youth Policies and other policies affecting youth socio-economic transformation

**Notice:** It is the responsibility of the contracted consultant to cater for all logistics that will be required during the execution of this assignment.

## 3. DELIVERABLES

- **Inception report** including a clear methodology and the framework for review of the national youth policies and key indicators of youth development for the analysis, the understanding of the TORs, work plan, costs to be mobilized, timeline, logistics, organization as well as detailed explanation of the evaluation plan for their achievements. *To be delivered latest 2nd week after the start of the assignment.*
- **Draft all knowledge management products including** 1 – 2 Pager Analysis per country including smart graphs indicating performance per key indicators, policy gaps, and proposed entry points for ensuring support and resource mobilisation mechanism. The draft



knowledge products will be submitted to YouthConnekt Africa Hub and UNESCO for their comments and approval.

- **Final Report**

#### **4. REPORTING AND INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS**

YouthConnekt Africa will contract the most competitive consultant based on the proposals submitted and the relevant experience/qualities of the individual. The consultant will be reporting on a bi-monthly basis, and provide regular updates on progress collecting the necessary data to review; the final detailed report at the completion of the assignment to YouthConnekt Africa Hub. At the end of the contract, the consultant will provide the detailed report highlighting work done and proposed interventions for next steps.

#### **5. DURATION, TIMING**

The assignment is scheduled to be undertaken by an African consultant. The consultancy will run in 60 days starting from **August 2021** ending in **October 2021**.

#### **6. DUTY STATION**

Remote, from any city in Africa.

#### **7. REQUIRED COMPETENCIES**

##### **Company Experience:**

- Minimum 5 years' experience in design and development of knowledge management products/research and documentation
- Minimum 5 years' experience conducting policy review work
- Understanding of how policies are developed, reviewed and role of key stakeholders within these processes.
- Proven experience in conducting youth empowerment related projects/research/studies
- Experience in working with Government entities, CSOs and other development stakeholders in Africa.
- Proven experience in developing documents/reports/knowledge products in English and French

#### **8. CONSULTANT EVALUATION CRITERIA**

##### **TECHNICAL EVALUATION CRITERIA**

**Proposers while preparing their technical proposals MUST follow the order as per evaluation form below.**

Technical Evaluation Criteria

Summary of Technical Proposal Evaluation Forms		Score Weight	Points Obtainable	Company				
				A	B	C	D	E
<b>Form 1</b>	Profile/Reputation/Experience	40%	<b>00</b>					
<b>Form 2</b>	Proposed Work Plan, methodology and Approach	60%	<b>400</b>					
<b>Total</b>		<b>100%</b>	<b>1,000</b>					

Evaluation forms for technical proposals follow on the next two pages. The obtainable number of points specified for each evaluation criterion indicates the relative significance or weight of the item in the overall evaluation process. The Technical Proposal Evaluation Forms are:

**Form 1:** Company Profile/Reputation/Experience

**Form 2:** Proposed Work Plan and Business Approach

Summary of Technical Proposal Evaluation Forms		Score Weight	Points Obtainable
1.	Expertise of Consultant in business	40%	400
2.	Proposed Methodology, Approach and Implementation Plan	60%	600
<b>Total</b>			<b>1000</b>

Technical Proposal Evaluation Form 1		Points obtainable
<b>Expertise of the Consultant</b>		
1.1	Reputation of Consultant	40
1.2	General Capability which is likely to affect implementation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- experience in project management support</li> <li>- project financing capacity</li> <li>- experience working on regional assignment</li> <li>- Specialized Knowledge</li> <li>- Experience on Similar Programme / Projects</li> <li>- Experience on Projects in the Region</li> <li>- Work with Government entities, CSOs and other development stakeholders</li> </ul>	300
1.3	Extent to which any work would be subcontracted (subcontracting carries additional risks which may affect project implementation, but properly done it offers a chance to access specialized skills.)	40
1.4	Quality assurance procedures, warranty	20
		<b>400</b>

Technical Proposal Evaluation Form 2		Points Obtainable
<b>Proposed Methodology, Approach and Implementation Plan</b>		
2.1	To what degree does the proposal present understanding of the task?	100
2.2	Have the important aspects of the task been addressed in sufficient detail?	80
2.3	Are the different components of the project adequately weighted relative to one another?	60
2.4	Is the proposal based on a survey of the project environment and was this data input properly used in the preparation of the proposal?	60
2.5	Is the conceptual framework adopted appropriate for the task?	60
2.6	Is the scope of task well defined and does it correspond to the TOR?	120
2.7	Is the presentation clear and is the sequence of activities and the planning logical, realistic and promise efficient implementation to the project?	120
		600

## 9. APPLICATION PROCEDURE

interested Consultants should apply by presenting the following documents:

- (i) **Letter of Confirmation of Interest and Availability;**
- (ii) **Personal CV of the consultant and other experts** indicating all relevant past experience from similar projects as well as the contact details (e-mail and telephone number) of the candidate and at least three (3) professional references;
- (iii) **Brief description** of why the consultant considers him/herself as the most suitable for the assignment and a methodology, if applicable, how he/she will approach and complete the assignment;
- (iv) **Methodology** that describes the scientific approach to developing a framework for review of the national youth policies based on standard youth development indexes.
- (v) **Financial Proposal** that indicates the all-inclusive fixed total contract price supported by a breakdown of costs.

Interested consultants are required to submit an expression of interest and relevant Curriculum Vitae that demonstrates the qualifications, skills, experience and track record to deliver the services required and that reflects an understanding of key issues relating to the scope of work. Please also provide three references letters of past assignments.

Submissions are to be made by email to: [procurement@youthconnektafrica.org](mailto:procurement@youthconnektafrica.org) Note that no hard copy submissions will be accepted by July 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021

Technical enquiries can be directed to Qamer Jatoi at [qamer.jatoi@youthconnektafrica.org](mailto:qamer.jatoi@youthconnektafrica.org)

## 10. PRICE PROPOSAL AND SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

The consultancy fee will be paid as a lump sum (inclusive of all expenses related to the consultancy), and will be fixed regardless of changes in the cost components of the consultancy. The consultancy fee will be paid upon completion of the following milestones:

%	Milestone
20%	Submission and approval of inception report
40%	Following submission, presentation and approval (YouthConnekt Africa Hub & UNESCO) of the draft report/draft knowledge management products
40%	Following submission, presentation and approval (YouthConnekt Africa Hub & UNESCO) of the final report/draft knowledge management products

YouthConnekt Africa Hub is committed to achieving workforce diversity in terms of gender, nationality and culture. Individuals from minority groups, indigenous groups and person with disabilities are equally encouraged to apply. All applicants will be treated with the strictest confidence.