

Seeking country-based consultants- women's economic empowerment- Kenya, Nigeria and Bangladesh

Terms of Reference

Publish What You Fund is looking for individual consultants based in Nigeria, Kenya and Bangladesh to support research and advocacy work for our Women's Economic Empowerment programme.

Introduction and Background

Publish What You Fund is an independent NGO combining robust research and technical expertise with targeted advocacy in order to make aid and development efforts more transparent and effective.

In October 2020, Publish What You Fund embarked on a 2-year project to improve the transparency of funding towards women's economic empowerment (WEE).

This study will map funding to women's economic empowerment (WEE), women's financial inclusion (WFI) and women's empowerment collectives (WECs), as well as assessing which donors have a gender integration (GI) approach. We are looking to map a range of funding flows including ODA, private, philanthropic and national and sub-national expenditure to these areas. We will do so through a country case study approach focusing on Kenya, Nigeria, Ethiopia, Uganda, Pakistan and Bangladesh.

Ultimately, we will use our findings to advocate for more effective investments in WEE at the country and global level through targeted engagement with key donors and policy makers.

Description of Assignment

We are looking for individual country-based consultants for Nigeria, Kenya and Bangladesh.

The country-based consultants will be responsible for:

- Conducting independent desk-based research.
- Stakeholder mapping of government, donor and civil society organisations.
- Lead in identifying relevant individuals for key informant interviews (KIIs) and arranging, conducting and analysing KIIs.
- Supporting and monitoring country funding survey dissemination.
- Working under the supervision of the Project Manager to ensure a smooth research process in-country.
- Supporting report writing and creation of briefing materials.
- Supporting peer-review of reports at a country level.

- Supporting in-country advocacy efforts to encourage uptake of policy recommendations.
- Participating in and supporting country advisory committee meetings.

Activities and Deliverables

Desk review:

- Review project methodology, literature review and other assembled papers relevant to the project.
- Review and provide feedback on research approach and WEE and WFI frameworks, considering country context application.
- Stakeholder mapping of national and sub-national government ministries, donors, coalitions, NGOs, INGOs and women's rights organisations committed to achieving women's economic empowerment.
- Independent desk-based research into the women's economic empowerment and women's financial inclusion commitments of national stakeholders and ongoing advocacy efforts to advance WEE.
- Work with the Project Manager and Project Researchers, and other country consultants to finalise a methodology for key informant interviews, questions and key concepts, which can be coherently applied to all focus countries.

Research:

- Assist in preparations to ensure a smooth launch of the programme of in-country research; planned to begin in April 2021.
- Identify interview targets, arrange and conduct the interviews and – if necessary – conduct follow up interviews. Interviews should include a range of actors, including representatives from: government, donors, WEE and WFI implementing organisations, women's rights organisations, coalitions and think tanks. Interviews should be conducted inside and outside of the capital city.
- Analyse the KIIs using a framework agreed with Project Researchers.
- Disseminate and monitor responses of the country level funding survey.
- Work with the Project Manager to remedy any issues that arise during the duration of the programme of in-country research.
- In conjunction with the project team, help prepare research validation interviews with in-country research participants.

Production of materials:

- To produce a summary report on national WEE and WFI commitments and ongoing advocacy efforts to advance WEE.
- To produce a stakeholder map.
- To produce English, usable write-ups of every interview – these may take the form of transcripts or notes, with recordings, as agreed with the Project Researchers beforehand, in accordance with the guidance provided.
- To contribute to the production of final reports, briefing and communications materials. The final report will be targeted at the following audiences:

- Key donors for each case study country
 - Members of government
 - Women's Economic Empowerment advocates within the case study country
- To review and comment on any subsequent revisions by the project team of the final draft report.
 - Support peer review process for reports at a country level.

Advocacy

- Work with the Project Communications Officer to align stakeholder mapping with communications strategy.
- Work with project team to disseminate report and advocacy materials to key stakeholders, including in-country networks and platforms.
- Support in-country advocacy events and activities to be decided with Publish What You Fund. Particulars of activities to be decided upon COVID 19 developments.
- To support follow up advocacy efforts in-country with stakeholders, by arranging engagement sessions such as roundtable discussions as agreed with the Project Manager and Communication Officer.
- Support in arranging follow up validation interviews with in-country stakeholders.
- To support communications outputs such as blog posts.

Other:

- The In-Country Consultant must be in regular contact with the Project Manager and Researchers, and available for weekly calls throughout the assignment.

Timeframe

The role will require roughly 50 days spread over 7-8 months, starting April 2021. The specifics of time allocation can be discussed prior to the commencement of the assignment.

Any changes to the timeline must be agreed to by the Project Manager.

Payment

Payment will include a payment upon reaching an agreed milestone and final payment on satisfactory and timely delivery of all services. The specifics of payments can be negotiated.

Required Skills and Competencies

- Minimum of 7 years' experience working in the public sector, development policy and/or research on international and national projects funded by major donors,

with a strong focus on gender equality and women's economic empowerment and financial inclusion.

- Experience conducting research and analysis in the area of women's economic empowerment and women's financial inclusion.
- Experience in coordinating and liaising with government agencies, donors and NGOs.
- Recognised experience in the field of gender and development.
- Demonstrable experience of producing high-quality, well-written, materials to a tight deadline.
- Strong management and interpersonal skills.
- Track record and familiarity with conducting interviews with a range of stakeholders.
- A strong personal network within the development sector.
- Both English and native language skills (preferable).
- The successful candidate would ideally be based in the country they are applying to work in.

Applications

The deadline for proposals is 15th March 2021 (9am GMT). To apply please submit the following to: alex.farley-kiwanuka@publishwhatyoufund.org.

- Proposal outlining how you would approach the task/process
- Quotation
- CV

Please include 'Country-based consultant' and the country you are applying from in the email subject. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis.