



Civil Society for Poverty Reduction

CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

SHORT-TERM CONSULTANCY FOR THE SIMPLIFICATION OF THE 2021 NATIONAL BUDGET INTO A CHILD FRIENDLY DOCUMENT

1. BACKGROUND

The Civil Society for Poverty Reduction (CSPR) is an anti-poverty civil society network of 72 members that has been building the voice for poor people in the fight against poverty. It was established in 2000, primarily, to ensure that civil society effectively and meaningfully participates in the design, formulation, implementation and monitoring of the National Development Plans to ensure government provides a means by which Zambians can effectively strategize on reducing the escalating levels of poverty.

In order to reach a wider audience and raise the profile of advocacy for public investment in children, CSPR with support from Save the Children International is implementing a project titled, "Child Participation and Investment in Children" at national level as well as in Luapula and Eastern Provinces of Zambia from 2017 to 2021. It is expected that by the end of the project, resource allocation to child sensitive social sectors will be enhanced and that children will have greater participation in government's policy processes.

Among the specific objectives of the project is to raise Public awareness which enhances capacity of community members to influence pre and post budget decisions that support children's education, health and social protection interventions. CSPR will therefore undertake the simplification of the 2021 National Budget to make it easier for children aged between 9 to 17 years to read and understand.

2. RATIONALE TO THE POPULARISATION OF THE NATIONAL BUDGET

As a signatory to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) and other regional treaties and protocols on children, the Zambian government has the obligation of not only fulfilling the child's right to development, protection and survival, but also their right to participation. One of the quality benchmarks for measuring quality and meaningful child participation is the availability and access of child-friendly information which enhances the child's ability to participate.

Whereas public policies, government plans and national budgets affect children, in Zambia, there are few of these documents which have been popularised for children to read, understand and get involved in their monitoring. Popularisation of technical and complex National Policy documents makes them reader friendly to a Citizen who does not frequently engage in policy processes. This eventually improves access as these documents will now be available in less difficult to understand terms for not only children but also their communities.

Access facilitates active participation of both communities and children in the monitoring of development planning and resource allocation to child focused sectors. It also promotes child participation in the different stages of the planning and budgeting cycle as it facilitates both input and feedback from children. The foregoing is a pre-requisite for fostering child focused social accountability in the public resource management system so that it functions for the benefit and realisation of the rights of the child.

3. SCOPE OF CONSULTANCY

CSPR therefore, invites eligible Consultant (s) or Consulting Firms to submit their Expression of Interest to undertake the 'Simplification of the 2021 National Budget'. The **EoI** should include Cover Letter,

Proposed Methodology, Work-plan, Budget and Draft Outline of final layout of the 'Child Friendly 2021 National Budget' as well as Details of the Consultant (s) i.e. CV(s) and any other relevant supporting documents.

The simplification should focus on the 2021 budget allocations to Health, Education, Social Protection, Child Protection and also any other revenue measures which will affect the Zambian Child in 2021. The main reference document is the 2021 Budget Statement which will be presented by the Minister of Finance on the last Friday of September, 2020.

Duration for the Consultancy is 10 Working Days from 28th September to 9th October, 2020. The Prospective Consultant(s) should include the following stages in their Work-plan: Presentation of Inception Report and Submission of both Draft and Final Reports;

4. TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR CONSULTANT (S)

The consultant will be expected to perform the following functions whilst undertaking the Assignment within the stipulated timeframe:

- i. Co-Create the Final Report Outline and Format;
- ii. Simplify the technical and complex text in the relevant sections of the 2021 National Budget into child friendly language;
- iii. Validate Draft Documents (Text and Dummy) with relevant Stakeholders to be identified by CSPR;
- iv. Produce a Popularised National Budget with illustrations;

5. EXPECTED OUTPUTS

The Consultant is expected to deliver the following output (s):

- A Child Friendly 2021 National Budget with Illustrations

6. REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CONSULTANT(S)

Eligible Consultant(s) should have the following qualifications:

- A Minimum Degree in Social Science, Mass Communications and Linguistics/Literature;
- A traceable record of having carried out work/consultancy of a similar scope and nature with references;
- Not less than 3 years' experience of working in the Communications or Information management field
- A background or experience with Child Rights will be an added advantage
- Ability to devote full time towards meeting the strict assignment deadlines.

Submission

All electronic applications must be emailed to cspr@csprzambia.org and should be captioned with the Subject: "2021 Child Friendly National Budget"

No physical submissions will be receipted.

All queries must be addressed to the email indicated above.

APPLICATIONS MUST REACH CSPR NO LATER THAN TUESDAY, 23rd September, 2020, AT 17:00HRS CAT.