

TERMS OF REFERENCE

CONSULTANCY FOR DEVELOPMENT OF NEW CISONNECC ADVOCACY STRATEGY (2023 - 2025)

1.0 Background

The Civil Society Network on Climate Change (CISONNECC) is an umbrella body of Civil Society Organizations working in Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management in Malawi. The Network's mission is to provide a platform for engagement between government and CSOs on climate change and related fields for improved adaptation and mitigation to climate change impacts, with an overall objective of building community resilience to the impacts of climate change. CISONNECC comprises of national and international NGOs, other networks, alliances and research institutions, with a secretariat based in Lilongwe.

CISONNECC has been implementing its Three-Year Advocacy Strategy since 2020 and is due to expire in December, 2022. However, in order to assess the effectiveness of the ending Advocacy Strategy and therefore inform the new strategy development, CISONNECC initiated the process of reviewing the extent to which the advocacy strategy met the intended objectives and chart new ways for the next programme years.

The new three-year (2023-2025) Advocacy Strategy is expected to constitute a visionary blueprint to enable CISONNECC achieve its mission of promoting coordination of civil society voice and efforts on climate change and disaster risk management issues over the next three years.

To accomplish the assignment, CISONNECC, therefore seeks to hire the services of a National Consultant to review the existing Advocacy Strategy; and facilitate the production of a new Advocacy Strategy. The new document should help to identify key advocacy objectives and approaches to guide the Network's advocacy initiatives in the next 3 years.

2.0 Purpose of the Consultancy

The purpose of the assignment is to review the existing Advocacy Strategy; and develop a new three-year Advocacy Strategy that is in line with objectives of member organizations. The strategy should also provide strategic direction for strengthening civil society coordination in influencing policy and practice around environment, climate change and disaster risk management.

The development of the new Advocacy Strategy should explore the relevance of CISONNECC's strategy, efficiency, effectiveness, impact and its sustainability. It should provide specific recommendations for improvement in implementation of advocacy initiatives in line with the Networks' efforts on climate change and disaster risk management policy and practice. This will be greatly informed by the assessment findings of the existing advocacy strategies and programme based Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation Strategies which will reveal the progress or extent to which the strategic goals and objectives have been realized as per the stated goals and objectives, challenges experienced and identify missed opportunities, if any. Based on the review recommendations, the

Consultant will be expected to develop a new CISONNECC Advocacy Strategy for the period 2023–2025.

3.0 Scope of Work

The scope of work of Advocacy Strategy review and development will address the general aspects of the programme component logic, efficiency, effectiveness, outcomes, relevance progress and sustainability to date. It shall involve member organisations, implementing partners and all other stakeholders highlighted as strategic alliances in programme areas and partner staff among others.

The scope of work for the Consultants will include major strategic areas but not be limited to:

- i. Carry out consultations with key stakeholders in area of climate change and disaster risk management in Malawi;
- ii. Carry out consultations with some of current advocacy networks to identify areas of potential collaborations;
- iii. Review relevant literature including existing partners' strategic plans and advocacy strategies;
- iv. Carry out a desk review of documents relevant to an understanding of the mandate, legal framework and context of the work CISONNECC undertakes;
- v. Review institutional arrangements and propose the most effective way of implementing the advocacy strategy;
- vi. Identify the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats to CISONNECC to achieve its objectives in harmony with its affiliates;
- vii. Collate, analyse, synthesize and consolidate CISONNECC's Advocacy Strategy with the inputs from the Strategic Plan review workshop with Network members;
- viii. Draft complete Advocacy Strategies (3-year) for the Network;
- ix. Facilitate a stakeholders' workshop to validate and build consensus on the advocacy strategic direction for the Network;
- x. Review institutional arrangements and propose the most effective way of implementing the advocacy strategy;
- xi. Facilitate a stakeholders' workshop to validate and build consensus on the advocacy strategic direction for the Network;
- xii. Prepare final comprehensive Advocacy Strategy incorporating stakeholder comments; with a clear implementation, monitoring and evaluation plan and a communication plan.

4.0 Deliverables

Based on the above, the National Consultants shall prepare and complete the advocacy strategy plan with a clear implementation, monitoring and evaluation plan and a communication plan. This shall entail, among other things the following:

- i. A three-year advocacy strategy with clear deliverables, key milestones, and direct guidance on implementation to strengthen CISONNECC's mission and vision
- ii. A three-year Monitoring and Evaluation Framework in line with the key deliverables, key milestones, and various elements of the implementation for the advocacy strategy
- iii. External environment assessment and internal environment assessment of the stakeholders/SWOT analysis



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- iv. Presentation of the advocacy strategy to stakeholders, CISONNECC Board and members for validation

5.0 Timeframe

The assignment is expected to be done in 20 working days after which outputs should be delivered.

6.0 Eligibility Criteria

Interested applicants should submit Technical and Financial proposals outlining how they intend to carry out the exercise by **24th October 2022**. The Lead National Consultant should have at least a Master's Degree in Climate Change or related disciplines and extensive experience in research, development, advocacy and lobbying. The Consultants should also have knowledge and expertise in development and implementation of participatory monitoring and evaluation strategies. The proposals should be supported with an outline of previous experience in related assignments and Curriculum Vitae of Key personnel.

The proposals should be addressed to:

The Finance and Administration Officer

Civil Society Network on Climate Change

P.O Box 1036, Lilongwe.

Email: cisonecc@cisoneccmw.org or goyigoyi@cisoneccmw.org

Website: www.cisoneccmw.org

Tel.: +265 (0) 212 259 675