



25th January 2021

Terms of Reference- Research on the Implication of Covid-19 Related Corruption on Women

About Mzalendo Trust

Mzalendo Trust (hereafter 'Mzalendo') is a non-partisan entity that keeps an eye on Kenyan Parliament with a mission to facilitate public participation in Parliamentary processes through information sharing, research and networking. Our vision is to see Informed, Empowered and Engaged citizens transforming society by holding their leaders to account.

About the Project

With support from the Canada Fund for Local Initiatives, Mzalendo is implementing a project titled *Deliberating the Implications of Corruption in the COVID-19 Pandemic on Special Interest Groups*. The project seeks to highlight the implications to special interest groups, particularly women, of the political, economic and social fall-out as occasioned by corruption during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Background Information

The fall-out occasioned by the COVID-19 pandemic has disproportionately affected the Special Interest Groups, including Women. The depravity, in part due to corruption during the pandemic, has resulted to unmerited suffering of women; politically, economically and socially. Failure to prudently manage allocated resources is attributable to disproportionate suffering women have hitherto gone through including loss of economic livelihood, gender-based violence, reduced access to reproductive and maternal healthcare, exponential increase in cases of teenage pregnancies and limited access to justice.

Economically disadvantaged women have been more vulnerable to the consequences of corruption. Such women are particularly those found in informal settlements as well as those in the rural areas. Further young women/girls, especially of the school going age have borne the brunt, especially of teenage pregnancies.

Globally, 70 per cent of health workers and first responders are women, and yet, they are not at par with their male counterparts. In Kenya, recent reports have unearthed that frontline healthcare workers lack the necessary protective equipment for their duties and that this has been due to irregularities in procurement in various government agencies. This has therefore led to women facing an even higher risk of COVID-19 transmission and fatalities.

In light of this, Mzalendo seeks to engage a consultant to undertake a study on the implications of Covid-19 related corruption on women. The study will also recommend feasible remedial measures to mitigate the consequences of the fall-out. Measures may range from legislative,

policy to administrative. It is our hope that the project output will provide objectively informed consequences of corruption during the COVID-19 pandemic and recommend potential remedial measures to mitigate the consequences of the fall-out.

Objective and Scope of Work

It is against the foregoing that Mzalendo seeks to engage a Consultant to undertake research on the implications of Covid-19 related corruption on women.

The main duties and responsibilities of the Consultant will be to:

1. Interview key respondents to gain primary data;
2. Examine secondary data sources for relevant data;
3. Highlight the resultant effects women face due to corruption during the Covid-19 pandemic and;
4. Provide recommendations to mitigate the effects highlighted.

Proposed Methodology

The proposed methodology will build on a brief review of relevant literature but is primarily focused on gathering and analyzing primary data; both qualitative and quantitative. Data collection tools such as surveys, key informant interviews participatory workshops will be utilized.

The Consultant, in collaboration with the project team, will:

- Agree on methodology of the assignment, prepare adequate tools putting into consideration the objectives and timelines of the project.
- Prepare for and conduct the studies highlighted in this term of reference.
- Present findings and recommendations of the study.

In undertaking the research, the Consultant will be expected to undertake desk review and key informant interviews with various actors. Cognizant of the challenges posed by Covid-19, which remains a potential challenge, the safety of staff and consultants remains the priority of Mzalendo . Applicants are encouraged to develop and demonstrate protocols for doing research during the pandemic.

Key deliverables

- Inception report including tools to be applied for the study;
- Draft Report;
- Final Report and;
- Facilitation of validation meeting and report launch.

Profile of the Consultant

The consultant will be required to demonstrate –

1. Masters' Degree in Law, Political Science or related field;
2. Relevant experience of at least 10 years;
3. Experience in research methodology, selecting and evaluating information as well as conducting and evaluating interviews e.g. FGDs and KII methodologies
4. Relevant professional/educational qualifications;
5. Ability to work independently within strict timeframes;
6. Availability during engagement period;
7. High level of professional integrity and;
8. Good communication skills.

Contract Period

The Consultant will be engaged for a period of 15 days spread over January and February and effective from the signing of the contract. The final report should be made available to Mzalendo on or before **25th February 2021**.

How to Apply

1. The Consultant is required to submit a technical and financial proposal as part of their application.
2. The technical proposal should include a summary of the applicant's qualifications, experience and a detailed methodology, outlining how they will approach and complete the quantitative and qualitative aspects of the assignment within the timeframe outlined. The technical proposal should also contain CVs of key team members and professional references.
3. The financial proposal should indicate the all-inclusive fixed total contract price and be supported by a breakdown of costs by activities.
4. The proposal should be sent to community@mzalendo.com by **31st January 2021** COB.
5. The application subject line should clearly indicate 'Research on the Implication of Covid-19 Related Corruption on Women.'
6. Any clarification should be emailed to community@mzalendo.com before 27th January, 2021.

Women are highly encouraged to apply.