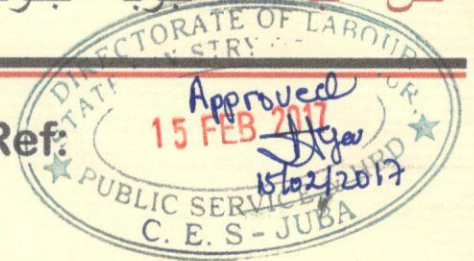




Our Ref:

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REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS: Consultancy – Institutional and capacity mapping

The South Sudan Council of Churches (SSCC) is seeking an experienced consultant to undertake a nation-wide mapping exercise of the institutional and capacity structures of the SSCC, related church initiatives and other relevant actors to directly inform the implementation of the SSCC Action Plan for Peace.

1. BACKGROUND

The South Sudan Council of Churches (SSCC) is an Ecumenical Umbrella body comprising seven (7) member churches and three (3) associates in South Sudan. The SSCC has a strong legacy of leading peacebuilding, reconciliation and advocacy processes, including in relief and rehabilitation throughout the Sudanese civil wars. For example, the SSCC is credited as the architect of the 'people to people' peace process in leading up to the signing of the 2005 Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA). Reconciliation, healing and peace is at core of what the SSCC and its member churches stand for.

The resumption of violence in 2013 and 2016 also resulted into a moment of self-reflection on the role that religious leaders ought to play. Since 2013, the SSCC has undergone a revitalization process to better serve the people of South Sudan.

In June 2015, SSCC heads of churches met in Kigali Rwanda and committed to an **Action Plan for Peace**. The Action Plan for Peace implemented by the SSCC identifies the following three strategic areas of action that will directly contribute and compliment the formal implementation of the peace agreement: 1) **Advocacy** at national, regional and international forums for a negotiated peace agreement including its implementation; 2) **Neutral Forums** to bring together stakeholders in less politically-charged atmosphere with the aim of overcoming mistrust and disagreement on critical national peace issues and processes; 3) **Reconciliation** through leveraging the churches values of forgiveness and reconciliation.

The SSCC is conscious of the need to strengthen its institutional capacity through mapping of its church related structures and other relevant actors to position itself for successful implementation of the Action Plan for Peace.

2. CONSULTANCY

The overall purpose of the consultancy is to lead a comprehensive multi-layered nation-wide institutional and capacity mapping of SSCC structures, as well as related church initiatives and other relevant actors, with the purpose of harnessing SSCC's potential to successfully implement the Action Plan for Peace.

The consultant shall lead the mapping exercise in consultation with SSCC leadership, while working closely with a programme support team consisting of SSCC members and its partners, and be actively engaged with representatives SSCC churches on the national, regional and grassroots levels. The consultant shall report directly to SSCC leadership.

SSCC's institutional and operational structures are in need of strengthening, and its capacity to fulfil its mandate must be enhanced. There is need to determine the existence, status and functionality of SSCC's national, regional and community-level structures throughout the country, and to identify the weaknesses and the critical gaps within, as well as pay special attention to the operational capacity of inter-church committees (ICC). In addition, a clear understanding needs to be formed on the institutional mechanisms of the structures as well as their vertical and horizontal coordination abilities.

The mapping exercise shall be conducted in the following five key process steps:

- i) Briefing
- ii) Literature review and analysis
- iii) Field research and data collection
- iv) Debriefing workshop
- v) Data analysis and report writing

The mapping exercise shall cover SSCC's three regions of Upper Nile, Bahr-el-Gazal and Equatoria, and be executed within a period of 60 working days.

4. QUALIFICATIONS OF CONSULTANT

The SSCC seeks to engage a South Sudanese individual with extensive research experience, knowledge in the field of peace and conflict, a solid understanding of church structures, local culture, customs and traditions, and the ability to work in local languages.

Required skills and experience:

- Devoted Christian professing faith in Christ with records of involvement in church related activities
- Advance degree in peace building, development studies, communication, psychology and social science and other related disciplines;
- Minimum of 5 years' experiences in peacebuilding, communication and project management.
- Ability to write comprehensive reports, and to organize and present data
- Strong writing and speaking skills in English
- Proficient in using MS word, Excel, PowerPoint and Internet
- A recommendation from the church of membership is required
- Knowledge of Arabic will be an added advantage
- Ability to work independently with minimum supervision and as a team player who demonstrates leadership.
- Capacity for sound operational decision-making and proactive problem solving.
- Experience in research work.

5. HOW TO APPLY

Interested applicants are required to submit their applications to SSCC only by email to tossccjobs2016@gmail.com, Orwsgatluakk@gmail.com and be clearly marked "Application: Mapping Exercise Consultant".

The closing date of applications is the 21st of February 2017. Applicants, who have already submitted their applications earlier, do not need to send a new application.

The application should include the following sections:

- 1) a letter of expression of interest;
- 2) a detailed CV and other relevant information about the consultant and his/her qualifications, experiences and examples of previous similar work, and three contactable references;
- 3) a technical narrative proposal including an explanation of the understanding of the mapping exercise, chosen methodology, proposed work plan and timeline; and
- 4) an all-inclusive financial proposal.

The applications will be evaluated as follows: the weight of sections 1,2 and 3 is 2/3 and the weight of section 4 is 1/3.

All queries should be sent only by email to ssccjobs2016@gmail.com or wsgatluakk@gmail.com, and be clearly marked "Query: Mapping Exercise Consultant".

