**REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST**

**CONSULTANCY SERVICE FOR GENDER AWARE SUSTAINABLE WASH (GASWASH) PROJECT BASELINE ASSESSMENT STUDY IN 13 COUNTIES SPREAD ACROSS FIVE STATES AND ONE ADMINISTRATIVE AREA.**

**Closing date: 18/02/2022**

1. **Background**

The Gender Aware Sustainable WASH is a five-year (October 2021-September, 2026), USAID funded project that aims to contribute to USAID/South Sudan Goal of strengthening the foundation for a more self-reliance by expanding gender-transformative sustainable access to basic safe drinking water, basic sanitation coverage, and increased uptake of key hygiene behaviors to improve health and household resilience in accordance with USAID/South Sudan’s Strategic Framework 2020 – 2024.

To achieve progress against these Mission-level objectives, Gender Aware, Sustainable WASH Activity will be working toward the achievement of the following three Activity objectives:

1. Sub-national and private WASH sector coordination and management strengthened;
2. Inclusive, resilient, WASH service delivery expanded and strengthened, and
3. Key WASH behaviors adopted by target communities and harmful gender norms addressed.

The project is being implemented by DT Global (<https://dt-global.com/>) which is an international development contractor, working across a wide range of sectors including WASH and technical areas in over 90 countries around the world.

GASWASH is therefore inviting interested, eligible and competent Consultancy Firms; Civil society organization and Service providers via this Expression of Interest (EOI) to respond on their willingness to be shortlisted to conduct a baseline assessment in any of the following counties in South Sudan:

1. Western Bar El Ghazal State Wau and Jur River Counties

2. Eastern Equatoria State Kapoeta North and Budi Counties

3. Jonglei State Akobo and Duk County

4. Upper Nile State Baliet and Ulang Counties\*

5. Unity State Mayendit, Leer and Panyijar counties\*

6 Greater Pibor Administrative Area Pibor county

**2. The principal objectives of the baseline will be to:**

The overall objective of the baseline assessment is to determine the current levels of access/coverage to basic and safe drinking water and sanitation in the selected counties. Below are the sub-objectives

* Determine the existing governance and management structures of water services at village, boma, payam and county levels.
* Determine the role that the private sector currently plays (if any) i.e. how many and what exactly are the private sector doing
* Determine the number, functionality and location of water facilities
* Determine coverage of sanitation facilities in schools, clinics and generally households
* Estimate the open defecation rate in the selected counties
* Develop current gender norms and practices including on Menstrual Hygiene Management, hand washing etc.

**3. Eligibility/Criteria for selection**

Applicant organizations will only be considered if they are:

* Legally registered in South Sudan
* Have been in operation for at least three years
* Presence or have experience working in the counties where the Baseline will be conducted
* Demonstrate capacity in the proposed assignment and availability of reputable experts in the specialties of the assignment.
* Demonstrate proven organizational capacity (experience, recommendations)
* Bidders are required to provide contact details for at least two clients who can provide references and letters of satisfactory completion of assignments of a similar nature.

**4. Mode of Submission:**

* Applicants must submit adequate information on their Legal corporate status, including but not limited to Company Name, proof of Physical Location, Telephone number, and Contact person
* Applicants should indicate their capacity to provide the services and specify which name of the countie(s) they would like to be considered for shortlisting. This information should include past verifiable performance of similar assignments undertaken and should include contact person(s) for reference.
* Shortlisted organizations will be requested to submit full detailed Technical and Financial proposals separately. The exercise towards realizing contract award shall be transparent and competitive.
* Interested organizations **MUST** submit their Expression of Interest (EOI) to the undersigned not later than Friday February 18, 2022
* Applicants Must indicate clearly on e-mail address the assignment or service, including the county(ies) they are interested in. If the firm is interested in more than one county, then they should submit a separate EOI for each of the counties for their interests.

**5. Submission Guidelines**

EOI should be in English Language and not exceed ten (10) pages (excluding cover page, executive summary and annexes). Any EOI with more than 10 pages will NOT BE considered responsive at all and will be rejected.

Expressions of interest should be submitted via email to gaswash.procurement@dt-global.com Applicants should indicate the reference number **USAID GASWASH 2022 BASELINE STUDY EOI COUNTIES X** in the subject line.

For any further questions, you may contact the number below or the above e-mail.

**Disclaimer:** Issuance of this call does not constitute an award commitment on the part of GASWASH nor commit the project to pay for costs incurred in the preparation and submission of an EOI. Further, GASWASH reserves the right to reject any or all EOI received. Similarly, an invitation for further negotiation or to submit a full application is not a commitment to fund that application.