Call for Technical Proposals

Enhancing Social Accountability in Building a Social Protection Floor for Zambia

1. Background
The Zambia 2015 Living Conditions Monitoring Survey shows that 54.4 percent of the population was living below the national poverty line with 76.6 percent in rural areas and 23.4 percent in urban areas. Further, the survey shows that 40.8 percent of the population were extremely poor with 60.8 percent in rural areas and 12.8 percent in urban areas. The level of income inequality estimated by the Gini Coefficient was very high at 0.69 (0.60 for rural areas and 0.61 for urban areas). Zambia has an overarching National Social Protection Policy crafted around the pillars of social assistance, social insurance, livelihood and empowerment, protection and disability that was adopted in 2014. This policy establishes government’s dedicated efforts to ensure that the role of social protection in pro-poor growth remains central and increases its systemic efficiency. The ultimate goal of social protection in these plans is to effectively promote and provide sustainable security against deprivation and extreme vulnerability by 2030 as outlined in the Vision 2030 and in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Despite these developments the social protection sector faces challenges relating to limited civil society participation in supporting implementation and monitoring of social protection programs. There is inadequate awareness among beneficiaries and communities on their social protection rights, though social protection is recognised as a universal human right in accordance with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Social accountability initiatives have potential to improve the capacity of citizens to act and engage with providers in an informed manner. The scaling up of the flagship social cash transfer programme coupled with increased share of government financing, point to a need for strengthened institutional, and governance frameworks necessitating the contribution of non-government actors in supporting implementation and monitoring of social protection programs. Strengthened participation of non-government actors promotes complementarities and effective execution of social protection programs by providing feedback avenues to facilitate programme improvements.

The ILO is supporting the Government in designing policy measures and strategies for implementation of a comprehensive social protection system. The ILO is calling for consultancy to support implementation of social accountability initiatives in social protection programs. The activities aimed to support effective participation of citizens and non-state actors in the design, implementation and monitoring of social protection interventions.

2. Consultants Profile
The contract will be awarded to a team of consultants or a firm with the following qualifications:

- The team comprising members with relevant university level academic qualifications in social protection, economics, or other relevant fields;
Demonstrate prior experience in undertaking works of similar nature and experience with social protection monitoring and evaluation methods and approaches;
Experience and ability in developing promoting community participatory and mobilisation tools approaches in social development;
Have relevant experience in working with governments and/or international organisations on consultancy assignments, especially in social development policy dialogue.
Have experience and good understanding of the social protection sector in Zambia;

3. Deadline for proposal submission

Interested consultants/institutions are encouraged to submit a technical and financial proposal and evidence of the experience with similar assignments to lusaka@ilo.org. The deadline for submission of proposals is Friday 24th May 2019 by 13.00hrs. Consultants submitting my emails are encouraged to send technical and financial proposals in separate emails.

Hard copies of the technical and financial proposals can also be submitted in separate sealed envelopes using the following address:-

International Labour Organization Country Office for Zambia, Malawi and Mozambique
Lubwa Road, Rhodes Park
P.O Box 32181
Lusaka
Tel: 211 252779
Web: www.ilo.org/lusaka
Terms of Reference

For Consultancy Services

Enhancing Social Accountability in Building a Social Protection Floor for Zambia
1. Description of Project

1.1 Irish Aid Regional Project: Inclusive Growth Social Protection and Jobs

Based on solid partnerships with government and non-government actors in the social protection sector established during the first phase of the ILO - Irish Aid regional project implemented from 2013 to 2016, in Zambia, Malawi and Mozambique, the ILO is implementing another Irish Aid partnership programme on Inclusive Growth Social Protection and Jobs. The programme is being implemented in Zambia, Malawi, Mozambique, Tanzania and Viet Nam. The programme focuses on two areas namely social protection and employment through public investment. The goal is to support national governments to use appropriate, well designed and managed social protection measures and employment promoting approaches facilitating the delivery of public investments in order to promote resilience, access to services and employment opportunities for the poor and vulnerable people so as to contribute to Inclusive Economic Growth.

The implementation period for the project is from December 2016 – December 2021. The regional Irish Aid-ILO programme will contribute to creating and extending national social protection floors*, including to informal and vulnerable workers, as part of comprehensive social security systems, in accordance with ILO Social Protection Floors Recommendation, 2012 (No.202) and Recommendation, 2015 (No. 204) on the Transition from the Informal to the Formal Economy. In line with the Irish Aid Social Protection Strategy that identifies six strategic priorities needed to be in place for social protection programs to have maximum impact, this project focuses on four priorities namely: 1) the creation of well-informed political and public debates on social protection, 2) building the capacity of governments to deliver transfers, 3) supporting the design of social protection plans: and 4) building a system of appropriate financing frameworks.

All activities will contribute towards the overall outcome to have more people in the target countries have access to adequate social protection benefits, delivered by a more efficient and effective system. The immediate objectives of the project are to achieve an “Institutional coordination and rights-based approaches for effective delivery of social protection floors” and “a comprehensive national social protection policy and prioritized implementation plan” to develop the rights-based approach to social protection embedding the right in national social protection policy objectives and legislation. It is expected that the immediate objectives and activities in the project will contribute to the strategic objectives of the African Union agenda on “Social Development, Labour and Employment”

2. Background

The Zambia 2015 Living Conditions Monitoring Survey shows that 54.4 percent of the population was living below the national poverty line with 76.6 percent in rural areas and 23.4 percent in urban areas. Further, the survey shows that 40.8 percent of the population were extremely poor with 60.8 percent in rural areas and 12.8 percent in urban areas. The level of income inequality estimated by the Gini Coefficient was very high at 0.69 (0.60 for rural areas and 0.61 for urban areas). Zambia has an overarching National Social Protection Policy crafted around the pillars of social assistance, social insurance, livelihood and empowerment, protection and disability that was adopted in 2014. This policy establishes government’s dedicated efforts to ensure that the role of social protection in pro-poor growth
remains central and increases its systemic efficiency. Government’s medium and longer term planning frameworks takes cognizance of the strategic role of social protection in addressing, equity, human rights, and poverty and vulnerability challenges within the national development planning processes. The ultimate goal of social protection in these plans is to effectively promote and provide sustainable security against deprivation and extreme vulnerability by 2030 as outlined in the Vision 2030 and in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Despite these developments the social protection sector faces challenges relating to is limited civil society participation in supporting implementation and monitoring of social protection programs, budgets and expenditure. Participation of civil society and other stakeholders in monitoring implementation of social protection programmes is vital for effective service delivery, improved access and sustainability of social protection programmes. There is inadequate awareness among beneficiaries and communities on their social protection rights, though social protection is recognised as a universal human right in accordance with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, there is however still insufficient awareness and understanding of social protection amongst beneficiaries and community members as information about social protection programmes is not widely spread. Awareness on social protection is important because beneficiaries are able to understand their entitlements and hence able to claim their rights. Social accountability initiatives have potential to improve the capacity of citizens to act and engage with providers in an informed manner.

It is worth noting that government increased commitment to the sector. The scaling up of the flagship social cash transfer programme coupled with increased share of government financing, point to a need for strengthened institutional, and governance frameworks necessitating the contribution of non-government actors in supporting implementation and monitoring of social protection programs. Strengthened participation of non-government actors promotes complementarities and effective execution of social protection programs by providing feedback avenues to facilitate programme improvements. In addition social accountability gives an opportunity for citizens and civil society to supplement government efforts and improve service delivery through adding the right holders’ voices in improving service delivery while enhancing the enabling environment for transparency and accountability.

3. Objective of the Assignment

The programme is aimed to support effective participation of citizens and non-state actors in the design, implementation and monitoring of social protection interventions. The project activities will contribute to strengthen the institutional, governance frameworks and contribution of non-government actors in monitoring and providing support and accountability systems to social protection programs. The strengthened participation of non-government actors is expected to promote effective implementation of social protection programs by providing feedback avenues necessary to facilitate programme improvements. The project activities are expected to enhance capacity building and experimenting of concrete approaches to promote accountability in the social protection sector.

4. Scope of work

The International Labour Organisation (ILO) will work with the consultant in implementation of activities to enhance civil society, workers and employers’ organizations active engagement in debate and monitoring of social protection programmes service delivery. The specific focus of this work will include:-

- Development of methodology and approach for social protection service delivery and monitoring;
- Promoting engagement of civil society organizations, media and social partners in policy dialogue on social protection programmes;
- Develop and implement tools and activities to capacitate beneficiaries and communities to monitor and influence the design and implementation of social protection programmes;
- To develop tools and approaches for monitoring and reporting on social protection budgets and expenditure so as to contribute quality information necessary for assessing coverage gaps;
- To enhance public sensitization and awareness on social protection interventions; and
- Mobilise and support a network of civil society organisations including social partners in providing evidence based input into formulation and implementation of government social protection services.

5. Methodology

The International Labour Organisation will select a local civil society organisation to undertake the social accountability activities. The selected institution will be required to prepare a detailed concept note/proposal which will be submitted to the ILO for approval.

6. Expected Deliverables

The service provider will be expected to deliver the following:

- Inception report including detailed concept note/proposal, proposed methodology, budget and expected timeline for planned social accountability initiatives.
- Tools for monitoring and reporting on social protection budget planning and expenditure.
- Tools aimed to capacitate beneficiaries and communities to influence monitoring the design and implementation of social protection programmes.
- Report on the social protection budget and service delivery monitoring including dissemination report.
- Report on the support to civil society organisations in engaging on social protection programmes indicating outcomes aimed at promoting participation of civil society and other stakeholders in monitoring implementation of social protection programmes.

7. Payment

The UN rules and regulations shall apply regarding compensation for this assignment based on the service providers’ qualifications and experience.

8. Reporting and Logistical Support

The ILO will facilitate coherent and continuous articulation with government social protection policies and systems and will provide technical and financial support to the consultant in order to ensure consistency with other technical assistance support provided by the UN and other cooperating partners in the social protection sector.

The consultant will be responsible for arranging office space and other logistics needed to ensure effective implementation of activities under this project.

The consultant will report to the ILO – Lusaka CO Country Director through the focal point person Mr James Canone -Technical Officer, Social Security and Disability Inclusion.
9. Consultant's Profile

The contract will be awarded to a service provider with the following qualifications:-

- The team comprising members with relevant university level academic qualifications in social protection, economics, or other relevant fields;
- Demonstrate prior experience in undertaking works of similar nature and experience with social protection monitoring and evaluation methods and approaches;
- Experience and ability in developing promoting community participatory and mobilisation tools approaches in social development;
- Have relevant experience in working with governments and/or international organisations on consultancy assignments, especially in social development policy dialogue.
- Have experience and good understanding of the social protection sector in Zambia;

10. Deadline for proposal submission

Interested consultants/institutions should submit a detailed technical and financial proposal on the basis of following points:

- A letter of interest stating that you are eligible for the assignment;
- A description of the proposed methodology to be used and a schedule of planned activities;
- Detailed budget, indicative of all-inclusive costs for activities, including administrative fees;
- CV of the professionals to undertake the assignment including a summary of similar assignments undertaken previously

Interested consultants/institutions are encouraged to submit a technical and financial proposal and evidence of the experience with similar assignments to lusaka@ilo.org. The deadline for submission of proposals is Friday 24th May 2019 by 13.00hrs. Consultants submitting my emails are encouraged to send technical and financial proposals in separate emails.

Hard copies of the technical and financial proposals can also be submitted in separate sealed envelopes using the following address:-

International Labour Organization Country Office for Zambia, Malawi and Mozambique
Lubwa Road, Rhodes Park
P.O Box 32181
Lusaka
Tel: 211 252779
Web:www.ilo.org/lusaka