



**COMMISSION OF THE
ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF
WEST AFRICAN STATES
(ECOWAS)**

Terms of reference (ToR)

**RECRUITMENT OF AN INDIVIDUAL
CONSULTANT IN RESOURCE
MOBILIZATION FOR THE REALIZATION
OF THE AFRICAN FORUM ON RESEARCH
AND INNOVATION (FARI) 2025**

I- BACKGROUND

Research and innovation are among the most enduring activities of civilizations. If research is the creator that constantly reshapes the face of the world, the source of renewal of the world in the most general and profound sense, and ensures a formative function for highly qualified executives¹, then innovation remains the driving force of modern capitalist societies, the heart that makes modern societies beat, whose evolutions are subject to new goods, new techniques, new knowledge and new thinking². The discoveries made today and the innovations that will be inspired by them are the foundation of tomorrow's world. Knowledge, the product of research and innovation, is the new wealth of nations. Its development, transmission, circulation and mobilization are part of our present and will shape our future³.

In developed countries, research and innovation are the driving force behind the human and social development of people, through the availability of new results and products. They promote competitiveness, stimulate growth and create jobs. In Africa, and particularly in the ECOWAS countries, however, scientific research and innovation contribute little to development, as they face numerous challenges. These challenges include the lack of a regional platform for disseminating research results, and the low level of scientific literacy among decision-makers and the general public.

Strategic axis 5 of the ECOWAS Science, Technology, and Innovation Policy (ECOPOST) Action Plan identified as an action, the establishment of a regional exchange platform between all stakeholders (Researchers, Innovators, Decision-makers, Private Sectors, Technical and Financial Partners, etc.). Accordingly, a study was conducted in 2018 by ECOWAS on the advisability of setting up a regional Research and Innovation Forum. This *forum is **African Forum on Research and Innovation (FARI)***, which in time should be labeled as one of the ECOWAS region's major scientific activities. The creation of FARI was the subject of a decision by the **sixtieth Ordinary Session of the ECOWAS Conference of Heads of State and Government. This decision (A/DEC/1/6/21) is based on the establishment and organization of the ECOWAS African Research and Innovation Forum (FARI).**

The first edition of FARI was held at the ECOWAS Commission from September 17 to 21, 2022 in Abuja under the central theme: **Science, Technology and Innovation for a competitive ECOWAS**. This theme was identified with a view to develop a common vision that would promote the relevance of a common agenda in the field of STI and enhance the effective application of research and innovation results for the benefit of sustainable socio-economic development and the competitiveness of our region. Eminent scientists from the region and around the world took part in FARI-2022, presenting papers

¹ Cheikh Anta DIOP, Opening lecture at the 9th biennial meeting of the West African Science Association (WASA), published in Notes africaines, Institut fondamental d'Afrique noire, no. 144, October 1974, pp. 85-88.

² Marianne Chouteau, Ludovic Viévard, l'innovation, un processus à décrypter, Millénaire - Janvier 2007, p24.

³ Politique nationale de la recherche et de l'innovation 2014- 2019 - Priorité emploi, October 2013, p 71

at the expert session. The ministerial session was attended by ECOWAS ministers in charge of STI, and featured an exhibition of over 45 start-ups from ECOWAS member states.

The second edition of the African Research and Innovation Forum will take place in 2025 in Cotonou (Republic of Benin). The success of the FARI-2025 includes **the recruitment of a resource mobilization consultant**. Communication and visibility are an integral part of FARI's main lines of action. The aim of the communication and visibility component is to ensure that the overall objective of the Forum is better achieved by adopting a proactive approach to deliver the key messages for the event's success. This component aims to ensure better organization of the event, with a view to mobilize technical and financial partners and promoting the event regionally and internationally. Communication also aims to mobilize a pool of private and public investors, for the realization of potential research and innovation projects that will be presented during the Forum.

II- OBJECTIVES OF THE MISSION

The present terms of reference have been drawn up for the recruitment of an individual Resource Mobilization Consultant, whose overall objective will be to ensure the mobilization of resources for the implementation and success of the activities planned within the framework of FARI-2025. The Consultant will have to develop and implement a resource mobilization action plan, and mobilize technical and financial partners.

Specifically, the actions to be carried out by the Resource Mobilization Consultant must aim to achieve the objectives described below:

Before the Forum:

- i. Design and implement an action plan to mobilize resources for the realization and success of the Forum in 2025.
- ii. Identify technical and financial partners and sponsors for the event.
- iii. Propose a financial package for the organization of the event.
- iv. Ensure the mobilization of the additional financial resources needed to organize FARI-2025.
- v. Mobilize resources to finance innovative projects.

III- EXPECTED RESULTS

The expected results of this mission are as follows:

- i. An action plan to mobilize resources for the success of the Forum is designed and implemented.
- ii. National, regional and international technical and financial partners have been identified and mobilized.

- iii. A financial package for the organization and staging of the event has been drawn up.
- iv. The mobilization of resources for the organization of FARI- 2025 and the financing of projects is effective.

IV- SCOPE OF SERVICES REQUESTED

In order to mobilize resources for the achievement of FARI's expected results, the Resource Mobilization Consultant should undertake the following actions:

IV.1 Designing a resource mobilization plan

To promote the event and contribute to the implementation of forum activities, the role of each financial partner will be outlined, as well as how the forum fits into their respective policies. The mobilization plan will develop specific approaches and tools to outline an approach to facilitate resource mobilization for the forum.

IV.2 Develop an action plan and provide a list of partners for monitoring implementation

The Resource Mobilization Consultant will propose an implementation plan for the communication as designed. This plan should detail the specific activities to be carried out, their costs, the timeframe for their implementation, and the key players who will be involved. This will take into account various activities such as meetings, meetings of experts and ministers, start-up exhibitions, etc.

V- EXPERTISE REQUIRED

The Resource Mobilization Consultant is an individual consultant with expertise in mobilizing resources for regional and international events.

Specifically, the Resource Mobilization Consultant must have:

- Have a Master's degree or postgraduate diploma in economics, planning, marketing, resource mobilization and equivalent;
- Have at least eight (8) years of proven experience in mobilizing financial resources and monitoring projects related to major events at national and regional level.
- Have knowledge of the financial aspects of event projects.
- Have experience in discussions with development partners and resource mobilization.
- Be bilingual with a good command of English or French. Knowledge of Portuguese would be an asset.
- Have good computer skills.

The Resource Mobilization Consultant cannot claim authorship of the event, whose format, articulations and orientations remain the property of the ECOWAS Commission.

VI- CONSULTANT'S REMUNERATION

The Consultancy budget is 10,000 USD.

VII- DURATION AND LIMITS OF THE CONSULTANT'S MANDATE

The duration of the mandate of the Consultant in Resource Mobilization is four (4) months. At the end of his mandate, the consultant should present:

- A methodology for drafting a resource mobilization strategy.
- A strategy, action plan and list of partners mobilized for FARI 2025.
- FARI resource mobilization strategy final report.

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VIII- CONFIDENTIALITY:

The Resource Mobilization Consultant is bound by confidentiality and must not, under any circumstances, disclose information that could jeopardize the Forum. Any breach of this clause will result in immediate cancellation of the contract.

IX- SUPERVISION AND COORDINATION EVENT OVERVIEW

Overall coordination is provided by ECOWAS, through the Education, Science and Culture Directorate.

X- ACCEPTANCE OF SPECIFICATIONS

The signing of these specifications constitutes acceptance of the provisions contained herein. It remains a contract in due and proper form.

XI- SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES

The parties agree to settle amicably any dispute that may arise in the interpretation or understanding of these specifications. Failing this, the dispute will be settled by arbitration before the ECOWAS Court of Justice.

Done at on2024

For ECOWAS

For the Consultant