



NOTICE FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST No. 01/ECOWAS/DAEA/DRS/2025

Publication period: from 08 to 28/01/2025

Title: SELECTION OF A FIRM FOR THE AUDIT OF THE ACCOUNTS OF THE PROJECT FOR THE HARMONIZATION AND IMPROVEMENT OF STATISTICS IN WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA (PHASAOC).

I. Context

The Commission of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS Commission) has received a grant from the World Bank to implement the Project "Harmonisation and Improvement of Statistics in West and Central Africa" (PHASAOC). This project supports the National Statistical Systems (NSS) and the ECOWAS Regional Statistical System (RSS) in the process of producing up-to-date, reliable and harmonised statistics covering mainly social and economic data.

The objective of the project is to improve countries' statistical performance, regional harmonisation, data access and their use, and to strengthen the modernisation of the statistical system in participating countries.

The project has four components: (i) Harmonisation and production of base statistics using international data quality standards, (ii) Statistical modernisation, institutional reform, human capital, data accessibility and use, (iii) Improvement and modernisation of physical infrastructure, (iv) Project management, monitoring and evaluation.

This project is planned for five years and covers the period 2023-2028. Funding will be provided through a combination of International Development Association (IDA) grants for windows and country and region-specific credits. The ECOWAS Commission is seeking the services of a reputable external auditor to audit the project accounts annually in accordance with regulations.

This notice of expression of interest aims to select a firm for the Audit of the accounts of the PHASAOC project.

II. Goals

The objective of the financial and accounting audit is to audit the financial and accounting operations of the project in a professional manner and make recommendations on the financial situation of the project at the end of each year to improve the financial statements of the project in accordance with applicable accounting standards.

At the end of each year, a financial statement is prepared by the Project Management Unit (PMU) financial management specialist that will reflect all financial transactions of the Project. The Project Management Unit is responsible for maintaining an adequate internal control system as well as acceptable documentation of transactions. This financial and accounting audit will cover the period from January 1st to December 31st of each year starting from the year 2024.

III. Mission of the Cabinet

The firm's engagement will be carried out in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs) issued by the international federation of Accountants (IFAC) and will include audit tests and procedures and checks that the auditor deems appropriate in the circumstances.

In accordance with IFAC standards, the auditor should pay particular attention to the following:
(i) **Fraud and corruption**, (ii) **Laws and regulations** (iii) **Governance**, (iv) **Risks**.

IV. Required profile of the firm

The firm must be an independent audit and accounting firm, member of a professional accounting organisation recognised internationally by IFAC. It must have proven experience in financial auditing of development projects and accepted by the World Bank.

The Directorate of Research and Statistics of the ECOWAS Commission invites firms to submit their applications to provide the services described in the available ToRs. Interested firms must provide information on their capacities and experiences demonstrating that they are qualified to provide the services (references for similar services, experience in comparable assignments, etc.). Consultants may form associations to increase their chances of qualification.

For each similar mission, the consultants must provide the following information: the name and description of the mission, the country where the mission was carried out, the name of the client, the date and duration of the mission. Each similar mission will only be taken into account if the consultant provides supporting documents relating to its completion, such as certificates provided by the Client for services rendered.

It should be noted that the interest expressed by a Firm does not imply any obligation on the part of the Borrower to include this firm in the shortlist.

NB: Each reference will be summarized on a project sheet and will only be taken into account if the candidate attaches supporting documents including the contact details of the Project Owners allowing possible verification of the information provided: Certificate of proper execution.

V. Selection criteria

The evaluation of application files will be carried out on the basis of the following evaluation criteria and marking scales:

No.	Evaluation criteria	Grading Scale
I	Existence of the firm/group: Justify by registration on the Board of an Order of Chartered Accountants. NB: Any registration not justified by a certificate or without registration eliminates the firm/group.	20 points
I-1	The firm's registration on the Roll of a Chartered Accountants Association. NB: If the consultant is a group: attach the grouping agreement and each member must be registered on the roll of a Chartered Accountants Association.	10
I-2	The firm manager must be registered on the Roll of an Order of Chartered Accountants. NB: If the consultant is a group, each member must be registered on the Roll of an Order of Chartered Accountants.	10
II	General experience of the firm Provide evidence of the number of general assignments carried out in the fields of auditing, consultancy and statutory auditing over the last five (5) years.	30 points
II-1	Ten (10) or more general assignments carried out in the fields of auditing, consulting and statutory auditing, over the last five (5) years.	15
II-2	Between five (5) and nine (9) general assignments carried out in the areas of auditing, consulting and statutory auditing, over the last five (5) years.	10

II-3	Less than five (5) general assignment carried out in the fields of auditing, consulting and statutory auditing, over the last five (5) years.	5
III	Specific experience of the firm/group: Provide evidence of the number of assignments relating to the accounting and financial audit of development projects and programmes financed by partners (World Bank, African Development Bank, African Union, etc.) over the last five (5) years.	50 points
III-1	Ten (10) assignments and more related to the accounting and financial audit of development projects and programs, financed by the AfDB or the World Bank, over the last five (5) years.	25
III-2	1 to 4 assignments in connection with the accounting and financial audit of development projects and programmes financed by the AfDB or the World Bank over the past five (5) years.	15
III-3	1 to 4 assignments in connection with the accounting and financial audit of development projects and programmes financed by the AfDB or the World Bank over the past five (5) years.	10
TOTAL NOTES		100 Points

To be on the shortlist the minimum qualifying score is 70 points out of 100.

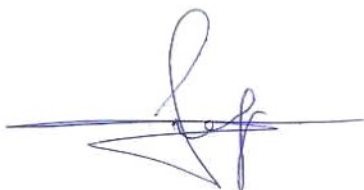
VI. Selection method :

The eligibility criteria, the establishment of the shortlist, as well as the selection procedure, will comply with the Procurement Regulations for Borrowers Requesting Financing for Investment Projects (FPI), version September 2025. The selection method is **Least Cost Selection (LCS)**.

Expressions of interest should be submitted with the subject “**selection of a firm for the audit of the accounts of the project for the Harmonisation and Improvement of Statistics in West and Central Africa (PHASAO)**”.

Interested firms may obtain further information at the address mentioned below, during office hours, **Monday to Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

Applications should be sent to the following email address : Procurement@ecowas.int ; cedeo.phasao.ugp@gmail.com and copy : ; myahaya@ecowas.int ; Director of Research and Statistics ; sbangoura@ecowas.int ; Director of Administration and General Services, ikkamara@ecowas.int ; Head of Procurement Division no later than **28 January 2025 at 23:59 GMT+1, Nigeria time** .



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