

Market Consultation

Gender review and training of Orange Corners in Côte d'Ivoire

Organisation: The Netherlands Enterprise Agency (RVO)

The Netherlands Enterprise Agency (**in Dutch: Rijksdienst voor Ondernemend Nederland, RVO**) supports private and public organizations with funding, international business partners, knowledge, and regulations.

More information about RVO can be found on: www.rvo.nl and <http://english.rvo.nl/>.

Purpose of the notification

The purpose of the market consultation is to assess interest by expert teams, organisations (including private, public, and NGO sector entities) able to enhance and stimulate gender-sensitive approaches in Côte d'Ivoire, through a gender review, following capacity building and knowledge enhancement of the service provider of the Orange Corners programme. Orange Corners is an initiative of the Kingdom of The Netherlands that provides young entrepreneurs in Côte d'Ivoire with the necessary training, networks and facilities to start and grow their businesses.

Extent and duration

The project will run from March 2022 until February 2023.

Background

Overall challenges in becoming successful entrepreneurs and business leaders are exacerbated for women in Côte d'Ivoire due to social and cultural systems that value women and girls less than their male counterparts. As a result, women have less access to education and fewer rights when it comes to inheritance and therefore, decreased access to the financial mechanisms necessary to establish formal businesses with growth potential. Although women's participating in workforce and entrepreneurship have been key items of the reform agenda, Côte d'Ivoire ranks 134 out of 156 countries according to the [Global Gender Gap Report](#) of 2021.

The Embassy Kingdom of the Netherlands (EKN) in Abidjan strives to identify their niche to contribute to women entrepreneurship as part of their strategy on entrepreneurship and their visible presence as broker within the entrepreneurship ecosystem (for example Orange Corners programme). Considering the cultural barriers, lower admittance rates to entrepreneurship programmes, lack of access to finance opportunities and difficulty with the formalization of business in Côte d'Ivoire it is necessary to enhance the programmes already supported by the EKN to Côte d'Ivoire and thereby contributing to and strengthening the startup ecosystem in Côte d'Ivoire regarding women economic empowerment.

Budget indication

The maximum budget is € 30.568,- including local taxes and Dutch VAT.

Purpose of the project

The purpose of the project is to enhance and stimulate gender-sensitive approaches within the Orange Corners incubation programme in Côte d'Ivoire, through a gender review, following capacity building and knowledge enhancement of the service provider. Gender-sensitive pedagogy includes the application and process of teaching and learning that accounts for different needs based on gender and works to avoid the marginalization that can occur when pedagogical responses are based on social norms that include gender discrimination. This will lead to better training and support for young Ivorian entrepreneurs to overcome the cultural, financial and legal barriers ahead. Orange Corners Côte d'Ivoire team itself will receive support by means of coaching and mentoring in the development and implementation of adapted or newly introduced training modules for young entrepreneurs during the first year. This coaching trajectory will lead to a better embedment and increase gender awareness within the service provider.

Results

Through the execution of this assignment, the following results are expected to be delivered:

Result 1: executing an in-dept gender review of the service provider

There is a clear overview of entry points to integrate gender sensitive approaches in the Orange Corners programme (OC, OCIF) and on institutional level of the service provider in a report.

Result 2: visiting Abidjan for validation gender review and training of service provider management and employees

The Orange Corners Côte d'Ivoire team has gained a stronger ability to incorporate gender sensitive approaches within the current phases of their incubation programme and management of the Orange Corners Innovation Funds through training.

Result 3: supporting the adaptation, implementation and evaluation of training modules

The Orange Corners Côte d'Ivoire team has been coached throughout the year in the development and implementation of adapted or newly introduced training modules for entrepreneurs. Existing modules have been adapted to become more gender sensitive and new modules have been focussed on the support of female entrepreneurs in the programme.

Results 4: evaluating the project and reporting

4a) A project specific monitoring and evaluation strategy and framework is provided. This framework includes a strategy for mentoring of service provider staff to help with the revision of the OC strategy for promotion, recruitment, selection and training and coaching of adapted training modules for the following year.

4b) A news article (+- 500 words) for communication purposes within RVO on Orange Corners social media pages is delivered. Good quality photos of the training are also desired if the context allows for photos. Those will be shared to Embassy and RVO.

Required and preferred skills/experiency

The following expertise is required/preferred from interested parties:

- A clear understanding of the Ivorian culture demonstrable by expertise or experience in the Ivorian culture;
- Excellent command of French and English, both written and oral.

Application

You can show your interest in this procurement procedure by sending an e-mail to Roos Teubel, Public Procurement Consultant at Roos.Teubel@rvo.nl with your company details and address.

Based on the market consultation, RVO can decide to start a procurement procedure. Interested companies/consultants can be invited to this procedure. Your response to this market consultation does not mean you have the right to be invited to this procurement procedure.

The deadline for showing your interest to this notification is set at **4 February 2022 12.00u CEST**.

Yours sincerely,

Roos Teubel
Public Procurement Consultant

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Procurement Office
Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate Policy
Netherlands Enterprise Agency