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Evaluation of Electoral violence Monitoring, Analysis and Mitigation (E-MAM) Project

The West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP), the leading peacebuilding Regional Civil Society Organization whose mission is to build a culture of peace through enabling and facilitating the development of mechanisms for cooperation among civil society-based peacebuilding practitioners and organizations, governments, intergovernmental bodies, women groups and diverse actors in West Africa and beyond, seeks a Consultant to evaluate its E-MAM Project.

The main purpose of this evaluation is to assess the relevance, effectiveness/impact, efficiency and sustainability of WANEP and partners work in monitoring, analysing and mitigating electoral violence in West Africa. The evaluation will document achievements based on expected outcomes of the E-MAM programme and its accompanying logframe. The evaluation and its recommendations shall be a useful tool of information for WANEP, the EU, ECOWAS, AU and other strategic funding and implementing partners. The evaluation will provide directions for future electoral conflict and violence prevention in West Africa and beyond.

Person specification

Considering the scope of this evaluation, the consultant either executes the work alone or in a team. The team would however be viewed in the contract as one consultant. The lead consultant must therefore undertake to be personally involved for at least half of the working days.

Qualifications of (Senior) Evaluator:
- At least 5 years-experience of leading in 4 evaluation/review of peacebuilding projects.
- Experience in evaluating development cooperation projects, preferably in accordance with the OECD/DAC Evaluation Quality Standards.
- Experience in development cooperation field, specifically in conflict prevention and peacebuilding field.
- Vast experience in working in West Africa.
- Must be fluent (speaking and writing) in both English and in French (Most of the Project countries are Francophone).

Applications with CVs and reference evaluations/ evaluation outputs of interested and qualified persons are to be submitted to: wanep@wanep.org by: January 31, 2022
I. Background

The E-MAM Project which is supported by European Union (EU), commenced in October 2018 and implemented across 11 ECOWAS member states (Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Senegal, Togo, Niger, Ghana and The Gambia). The project aims at filling the gaps in civil society’s capacity and levels of engagement with relevant institutions in addressing threats relating to electoral processes.

The project’s overall objective is to contribute to a reduction in electoral violence in West Africa, through strengthened Regional and National capacities to enhance peaceful electoral processes. The project components specifically seek to produce the following outputs: 1) Electoral violence Monitoring, Analysis and Mitigation mechanism (EMAM) established and implemented in targeted West African countries; and 2) Specific electoral violence mitigation activities supported and implemented through WANEP national network and/or other entities. The project aims at building on the successes and lessons learnt from the EMAM project in 2015, which has informed the necessity for improvement on the approach and inclusion of stakeholders necessary for subsequent successes of EMAM/election peace architecture in future general elections in ECOWAS member states.

Accordingly, the two major outputs of the project are:

1) Electoral violence Monitoring, Analysis and Mitigation mechanism (EMAM) established and implemented in targeted West African countries; and
2) Specific electoral violence mitigation activities supported and implemented through WANEP national network and/or other entities.

In line with WANEP’s own Network Accountability, Learning and Planning System (NALPS) which recommends periodic and strategic reviews and evaluations, and in fulfilment of the strategic accountability and learning agreement reached with the EU, an independent, external evaluation of the project and its implementation is due by the end of project implementation. The evaluation will assess the project in terms of achievements made and lessons learnt within the period. (See Annex 1: Project Proposal and Logframe-to be provided after consultant has been selected).

II. Purpose

The main purpose of this evaluation is to assess the relevance, effectiveness/impact, efficiency and sustainability of the project. The evaluation will document achievements based on objectives and expected outcomes in the project proposal and it’s accompanying logframe. The evaluation and its recommendations shall be a useful tool of information for WANEP, the EU, ECOWAS, AU and other
strategic partners. The evaluation will provide directions for future strategic focus and designing of similar interventions (recommendation based upon lessons learned from this intervention).

The evaluation will use the OECD DAC evaluation criteria (Relevance, Coherence, Impact, Effectiveness, Efficiency and Sustainability)

- **Relevance** - the evaluation will give insight into the relevance and significance of the project and its implementation. In terms of implementation, the evaluation will assess the extent to which focus and activities were aligned to local and national requirements and priorities in terms of contributing to peaceful elections. In addition, the evaluation will document whether the outputs/results remain consistent with overall objectives.

- **Coherence** – the evaluation will examine complementarity and how compatible, interventions have been with project countries and the ECOWAS Commission whilst avoiding duplication of efforts. It will also examine the complementarity of the project activities with other WANEP strategic programmes.

- **Effectiveness** of the project implementation may be addressed together with the ‘sustainability’ criteria. The evaluation will examine whether the project implementation achieved the desired objectives, and to what extent the implementation has contributed to building the capacity of CSOs and other institutions to ensure peaceful and successful elections in the project countries. Under this criteria, the evaluation is expected to provide an overall assessment of the extent to which objectives were attained.

- **Efficiency and value for money** – The evaluation will provide an independent assessment of outputs in relation to inputs, determining whether activities are implemented in cost efficient ways compared to available alternatives and whether objectives were achieved on time.

- **Impact and results** Impact will be evaluated as far as to expected outcomes stated in the logframe. Accordingly, the evaluation will assess and determine results and impact (to the extent possible) to date and results anticipated from the project.

- **Sustainability** is one of the major focus criteria for the evaluation and can be addressed together with the ‘effectiveness’ criteria. Under sustainability, the evaluation will assess the prospect of results achieved based on the capacity built and how the capacities and established mechanisms are owned by partners in the project countries.

- **Gender and Environment**: As a cross-cutting criteria, the evaluation will address gender and environment and assess how these informed the implementation of the strategic plan. Particularly for gender, the evaluation will look at how it influenced the implementation of gender-sensitive preventive actions and the development and use of gender sensitive activities throughout the project.
Specific Objectives
This evaluation will aim at providing both accountability and learning outputs. Specifically, the evaluation will seek to achieve the following:

(a) To evaluate the extent to which implementation has led to expected outcomes stated in the logframe;
(b) To assess WANEP’s support in building the capacities of CSOs and other institutions in electoral violence monitoring, analysis and the establishment and operationalizing mitigation and response mechanisms in project countries;
(c) To evaluate the specific differences in achievement in the different project countries;
(d) To evaluate the extent to which Gender has been infused in project implementation and outcome achievement;
(e) To provide recommendation based upon lessons learned from this intervention).

III. Subject and focus (scope)
The subject of the evaluation is the implementation of E-MAM project and the available evidence of delivery and achievement made so far. The evaluation will consist primarily of desk and also, field visits to two (2) to four (4) countries which must include Togo and Guinea. A variety of online/virtual tools would be used for data collection from key and relevant stakeholders in other project countries not visited. The evaluation would however resort to the use of only online resources and technology in gathering information, should there be any escalation of violence or spread of COVID-19 that would not permit field visits.

IV. Evaluation approach, methods and deliverables
The evaluation will begin with an inception phase of reviewing documents provided by WANEP and a subsequent inception report, to be produced within one week from the start of the assignment. The inception report shall describe critical issues identified for further analysis, detailed work plan, detailed methodology and the foreseen degree of difficulties in collecting data (if there are any), to be discussed with WANEP Management and the EU.

The inception phase will be followed by a period of research, in-depth review of key documents and field study depending on security and COVID-19 contexts. The consultant/s will produce the following:
- an inception report (8-15 pages without annexes),
- a draft evaluation report (about 25-30 pages without annexes), including a draft executive summary
- and the final evaluation report (25-30 pages without annexes), the final executive summary
The report shall address achievements, challenges, lessons learned including an overall assessment of the project implementation, recommendation for enhancing the design and implementation of
similar or follow-up projects. Final report shall be presented within 2 weeks after receipt of comments and feedback from WANEP and the EU (See Schedule below).

**Evaluation Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phase</th>
<th>Period/Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Expected Output</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Inception</td>
<td>Within 1 week</td>
<td>Meeting with WANEP</td>
<td>Inception Report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desk Research</td>
<td>Within 1 weeks</td>
<td>Desk Assessment</td>
<td>Desk Data Analysed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field Study</td>
<td>Within 3 weeks</td>
<td>Field data collection in 2 to 4 countries and online/digital data/information gathering</td>
<td>Field Data Analysed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debriefing and Report Drafting</td>
<td>Within 2 weeks after field data collection</td>
<td>Writing draft report</td>
<td>Draft Report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online Debriefing with EU Regional office (Dakar) and EU Headquarters</td>
<td>A week after previous Debriefing</td>
<td>Drafting report to include concerns of EU</td>
<td>Draft Report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Report Finalisation</td>
<td>Within 2 weeks after feedback</td>
<td>Refining of report</td>
<td>Final Report</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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The final report shall be submitted in electronic copy both in MS word and an unchangeable format (PDF).

**V. Remuneration**

WANEP is responsible for the contracting including remuneration of the consultant(s) and will manage the evaluation together with the EU. The consultant’s remuneration would be negotiated based on available budget and the proposal and budget presented by the consultant/s.

**VI. Coordination/Responsibility**

The evaluation will be managed by WANEP in consultation with EU partners. The Coordinator of the E-MAM project at WANEP, supported by the Monitoring and Evaluation Unit of WANEP will be the contact persons for the preparatory and implementation phases of this evaluation. The E-MAM project Coordinator will ensure that the evaluator/s have access to and have consulted all relevant information sources and documents related to the project. Administration Department of WANEP will provide the required logistical support to the evaluator/s.