



EU Support to strengthen the competitiveness of West Africa and enhanced the countries' integration into the regional and international trading system implemented by GOPA Worldwide Consultants

Background Information

The West Africa Competitiveness Programme under the 11th EDF has been allocated 120 million EUR. It includes a regional component and sixteen national components (one per ECOWAS Member State and Mauritania). The different components of the programme will be implemented through indirect management with EU member States Agencies, International Organizations, some ECOWAS Member States and the ECOWAS Commission. Specifically, the regional component will be implemented through a Programme Estimate, managed by the ECOWAS Commission through private commissioned operations and two PAGODAs managed by two ITC and UNIDO.

The overall objective of the Competitiveness Programme is to “strengthen the competitiveness of West Africa and enhanced the countries' integration into the regional and international trading system”.

The specific objectives are to improve the performance, growth and contribution to industry, regional trade and exports of a number of value chains selected at national level and to improve the climate for business at national and regional levels.

The outputs associated with each specific objective are:

- Output 1.1: Country level: competitiveness at firms' level is improved, specifically through clusters' approach.
- Output 1.2: Country level: intermediate organisations of the selected value chains are strengthened and service delivery to MSME is improved and expanded.
- Output 1.3: Regional level: better regional linkages among selected value chain actors are promoted and key regional intermediary organisations are supported.
- Output 1.4: Regional level: regional quality infrastructure system is strengthened with a view to promote environmental issues.
- Output 2.1: Country level: regional policies in favour of competitiveness are mainstreamed in the country and help enable a business-friendly environment.
- Output 2.2: Regional level: regional policy and framework to improve industrial competitiveness are harmonised, formulated and monitored.
- Output 2.3: Regional level: the capacity of ECOWAS Commission, WAEMU Commission and Member States to successfully manage, coordinate and monitor the programme is strengthened.
- Output 2.4: Regional level: The regional competitiveness observatory is set up and operational as a tool for information, documentation, observation, monitoring, and analysis of changes in the competitive position of WA, and proposals for necessary adjustments.

Objectives

Our client seeks to recruit a Programme Officer to provide support to the ECOWAS in the coordination, monitoring & evaluation activities of both the overall 11th EDF programme for Competitiveness and the regional component of the Programme.

Position:	<u>WACOMP Programme Officer</u>
Job category:	Professional
Vacancy code:	GOPA/MOPE/MBB/PROCO/2019101
Department/office:	ECOWAS, Dept. of Industry and Private Sector Promotion
Duty station:	Abuja, Nigeria
Contract type:	Consultant

Applications should include a detail CV and should be sent to: po.wacomp@gmail.com

Qualification and skills

- Master Degree or its equivalent in Economics, International Development, Private Sector Development or other related discipline
- Fluent in English and French, both written and spoken
- Demonstrated communication skills and ability to interact with high levels officials and development partners
- IT skills: MS Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint)

General Professional experience

- At least 5 years' experience in Trade and/or Competitiveness
- At least 3 years' experience Project management/Coordination

Specific Professional experience

- Experience of working with ECOWAS Member States

Desirable Knowledge and Skills

- Good knowledge of the international trading system, the trade-related technical assistance environment and social and economic conditions in West Africa.
- Experience in competitiveness related activities in project management, strategic planning and working with the local governments and/or business community in West Africa.
- Experience in working on EDF Programme/EU funded projects
- Background in international trade and regional integration and/or knowledge of and experience in trade facilitation reform would be a distinct advantage

Responsibilities

- Monitor and support activities of ECOWAS/UEMOA Commissions for the regional component of the 11th EDF West Africa Competitiveness Programme;
- Monitor and support activities of the implementing partners for the regional and national component of the 11th EDF West Africa Competitiveness Programme;
- Participate in coordination meetings, conferences, events and workshops as requested;
- Facilitate of dialogue with public administrations, public bodies and non-state actors;
- Assist in the preparation and analysis of reports;
- Support PR, visibility and communication activities;
- Maintain communication tools related to WACOMP;
- Provide administrative support for effective inputs, including the filing, drafting letters, memos, minutes and briefs;
- Provide logistical support for meetings, conferences and events;
- Other duties assigned.

Conditions of Employment: ECOWAS Member State Citizenship is required.

Applications must be received on or before the closing date: 5pm Abuja time (CET), Friday, 3rd January, 2020.