



## **Terms of Reference for the recruitment of a Local Consultant to Conduct an assessment on financing for Gender Equality in Rwanda**

### **1. Background and context**

UN Women, grounded in the vision of equality enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, works for the elimination of discrimination against women and girls; the empowerment of women; and the achievement of equality between women and men as partners and beneficiaries of development, human rights, humanitarian action and peace and security. Placing women's rights at the center of all its efforts, UN Women leads and coordinates the United Nations system-wide efforts to ensure that commitments on gender equality and gender mainstreaming translate into action. It provides strong and coherent leadership and technical advice in support of Member States' priorities and efforts, building effective partnerships with civil society and other relevant actors.

Many international commitments support gender equality and the empowerment of women, including the Beijing Platform for Action, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and a series of International Labour Organization conventions on gender equality as well as the 2030 agenda for sustainable development among others. UN Women's work is in line with these normative frameworks, and with the growing body of evidence that shows that gender equality significantly contributes to advancing economies and sustainable development.

Investing in women's empowerment sets a direct path towards gender equality, poverty eradication and inclusive economic growth. Women make enormous contributions to economies, whether in businesses, on farms, as entrepreneurs or employees, or by doing unpaid care work at home. But they also remain disproportionately affected by poverty, discrimination and exploitation. Gender discrimination means women often end up in insecure, low-wage jobs, and constitute a small minority of those in senior positions.

Funding for gender equality as a primary objective has stalled at around 5 per cent of bilateral allocable official development assistance (ODA). Therefore, supporting enhanced capacity and commitment of Member States to fund gender equality through national public financing and fiscal policies is an increasingly important strategy<sup>1</sup>.

The Third International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD), and its outcome, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda (AAAA), is the first in a series of ground-breaking agreements to set

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<sup>1</sup> <https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N21/186/22/PDF/N2118622.pdf?OpenElement>

and resource a transformative, universal agenda for sustainable development and international development cooperation to 2030. Together with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development it aspires to deliver, as never before, for poverty eradication and prosperity, the realization of human rights for all and sustainability of the planet.

Transformative financing therefore implies significantly increased, prioritized and sustained investment in GEWE commitments in scale, scope and quality, from all sources at all levels, and both gender mainstreamed and targeted in key sectors. At the normative level, investment is required to craft and implement laws, policies, measures and programs that create the enabling environment, infrastructure and institutions while also setting the foundation for the transformation of social norms for gender equality.

It is within this background that UN Women Rwanda Country office seeks the services of a local consultant to conduct an assessment on financing for gender equality in Rwanda whose findings will inform its programming and advocacy.

#### Scope and Objectives of the Study

##### **2. Scope of the study**

This study will explore and expand beyond the gender responsive budgeting that Rwanda is implementing for more than a decade by also looking at other avenues of financing for gender equality including domestic financing and donor funds channeled direct budget support or sector support. In addition, this study will identify and assess different existing opportunities/programmes aimed at financing for gender equality. It will also focus on the identifying gaps and challenges that hinder women to access to finance and other economic opportunities and will come up with solutions through actions that could fix the gaps and alleviate the challenges.

##### **3. Objectives of the study**

The overall objective of the study is to assess the key achievements in financing for gender equality in Rwanda and identify the prevailing gaps and challenges that need to be addressed.

##### **4. Timeframe/duration of the assignment**

The individual consultant is expected to conduct the assessment study for a period not exceeding **30 working days from the signing of contract.**

##### **5. Mode of application**

All interested and qualified individual consultants may download the detailed terms of reference at ..... and are requested to submit the required documents to [rwanda.offers@unwomen.org](mailto:rwanda.offers@unwomen.org) not later than **22nd April 2022 at 5pm Kigali time.** Only pre-selected candidates will be notified.