



Budget Strengthening Initiative (BSI):

Policy Directors. Consultancy Service Contract

Background

ODI's Budget Strengthening Initiative (BSI) supports the world's poorest, most fragile and most conflict-affected states to develop more effective, transparent and accountable systems for managing public finances. The project works in collaboration with an international network of donors (including IMF and World Bank) and budget reform stakeholders such as the IBP, CABRI and others to provide high-level policy advice on budgeting issues to governments of fragile states. The project is hosted by the Centre for Aid and Public Expenditure (CAPE) and links closely with the existing portfolio of work on aid instruments and PFM reform.

We currently work with Ministries of Finance in three fragile states: Southern Sudan, Liberia and DRC; with a long term aim to expand to another 1 to 2 fragile states. BSI provides contacts with international experts, demand-led policy advice and technical assistance; and access to peer learning and networks. Requests for advisory support have been wide ranging with the main focus on budget reform (e.g. Public Financial Management reform strategy; MTEF implementation and cash management) and aid strategies (both design and implementation at central and line ministry level). However support has also covered development of citizens guide to the budget; macroeconomic policy; climate change finance and job creation strategies.

Terms of Reference

The outcome of the assignment will be the successful provision of high level, strategic advice and technical assistance to governments of fragile states, within the consultants area of expertise. The work will be overseen by BSI's Director.

Key Terms and Deliverables

- A. Provide high level technical advice and mentoring support to BSI's country programmes, based on agreed work plans and requests from the countries BSI works with. This includes:
- i. Provide demand-led remote and on the ground support to governments in fragile states on key strategic issues for Ministries of Finance. This may include: Public Financial Management reform; aid strategy; Infrastructure Finance; Private Sector Finance; engagement with legislatures and civil society.
 - ii. In consultation with BSI's director, work as a confidential senior advisor to Ministers and as a mentor to senior government officials.
 - iii. In consultation with BSI's director, engage key stakeholders at an international level to advocate for reforming the delivery of aid to fragile states.
 - iv. Provide responsive, practical support to Ministries of Finance in fragile states to engage with the major donors.
- B. Use specialist knowledge and strategic position to contribute to BSI's research and dissemination programme.

The consultant will be expected to demonstrate the following:

Substantial senior management experience gained from working in at least one (and ideally two) of the following roles:

- Senior management post in a Ministry of Finance in fragile/post conflict state (e.g. at least Director-General level)
- Senior management post in an international financial institution/donor agency with responsibility for one or more post conflict/fragile states (e.g. at least the level of World Bank country director)
- Senior advisory post in a Ministry of Finance in a fragile/post conflict state (e.g. Chief of Party/Chief Technical Adviser)

Consultant policy directors would either be recognised as global experts in their specialist area or have a track record of successful delivering innovative approaches in this area in fragile/post conflict states.

As the BSI Director has substantial African experience within a bilateral agency, consultants from international financial institutions/multilateral agencies with non African fragile state experience would be particularly welcome.

Ability to work in French and/or Arabic would be an advantage.

Other information

- Consultants would be expected to be available for a minimum of 70 days a year over a 2-3 year period.

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- Consultants would need to be able to travel for a minimum of 20-25 days a year to fragile states. Most visits would be around one week long. One trip a year to London a year would be required.
 - Consultants do not need to be located in London but would need to visit at least once a year.
 - Consultant policy directors would be contracted at a level equivalent to ODI Senior Research Associates.
 - There may also be an opportunity to contribute to ODI's wider research agenda.

Tender Process

- Applicants should submit a CV, statement of support responding specifically to their qualification to perform the services set out in the terms of reference above and a schedule of costs by COB on the 6th of October bsi@odi.org.uk.
- Shortlisted consultants will be invited to a meeting in the week beginning 7th November and will need to be available to commence work by March 2012 at the latest.