



Budget Strengthening Initiative (BSI):

Senior Advisors

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.

Key Terms and Deliverables

Provide high level technical advice and mentoring support to one of the Budget Strengthening Initiative (BSI) country programmes in line with agreed work plans and requests from the countries. BSI is currently working in DRC; Liberia and S Sudan and has plans to work in 1-2 more fragile states. Advisory support is currently required on:

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- Public Financial Management/Budget reform or
 - Aid Strategy or
 - Engagement with legislatures and civil society.

However support in other areas may be requested and individuals with other specific areas of expertise are invited to submit their CVs.

The consultant will be expected to demonstrate the following:

Senior Advisors would have substantial senior level advisory experience of working in at least one (and ideally both) of the following roles:

- Senior advisory post in an international financial institution/donor agency with experience of working with a range of fragile and post conflict countries
- Resident senior advisory post in a Ministry of Finance in a fragile/post conflict state

Senior Advisors would either be recognised as global experts in their area of specialism or have a track record of supporting reforms in fragile/post conflict states. Ability to work in French and/or Arabic would be an advantage.

Other Information

- Senior Advisors would be expected to be available for a minimum of 50 days a year over a 2-3 year period.
- Senior advisors would need to be able to travel for a minimum of 20-25 days a year to one fragile state. Most visits would be around 1-2 weeks long.
- Between visits senior advisors would need to be available to answer queries by email
- Senior Advisors would not need to be located in London
- Senior Advisors would be appointed on a consultancy basis at a level equivalent to ODI Research Associates.

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.