



## Terms of Reference

<b>Project title:</b>	“Fair and Equitable policies that promote meaningful Participation of women in the Informal Cross Border Trade Eswatini”
<b>Duration:</b>	24 months
<b>Consultancy:</b>	Consultant to develop a simplified write up on border trade regulations between Eswatini and Mozambique
<b>Number of Consultants:</b>	One (1) Consultant
<b>Number of days:</b>	Ten (10) working days
<b>Due:</b>	03 <sup>rd</sup> June 2021

### **Overview of the Call:**

Coalition of Informal Economy Association in Eswatini (CIEAES) is looking for a consultant to develop simplified a write up on border trade regulations under the Fair and Equitable policies that promote meaningful Participation of women in the Informal Cross Border Trade Eswatini project funded by the Open Society Initiative Southern Africa (OSISA). The aim of the write up will be to simplify the border trade regulations.

### **Introduction:**

CIEAES, with support from Open Society Initiative Southern Africa (OSISA), is implementing a project for Informal Cross Border Trade (ICBT), titled “Fair and Equitable Policies that promotes meaningful Participation for ICBTs”. This project seeks to promote the informal cross border trade especially women to actively participate in the formulation of polices aimed at addressing their working conditions.

### **Objective of the project:**

To empower women informal cross-border traders in Eswatini through Training on national and regional trade policies.

### **Activities Include:**

- i. The design and implementation of specific trade facilitation instruments for Informal Cross Border Traders at selected border areas in the COMESA/tripartite region.
- ii. Reduction of corruption, bribery and harassment (including gender-based harassment) experienced by ICBTs is significantly reduced at selected border areas.

- iii. Strengthening the capacity of cross-border traders associations ICBTs and similar business associations to effectively defend the interest of their members and deliver good quality support services,
- iv. Supporting the simplification of regulatory document and dissemination of information on Informal Cross Border Trade so as to increase knowledge and inform better trade policy- making process t national and regional level,
- v. Establishment of adequate and simplified write ups for ICBTs at selected border areas.

**Background:**

Informal Cross Border Trade is growing within the context of globalization and regional integration. COMESA recognizes the importance of cross border traders, including small scale and informal trade flows and has developed policies and mechanisms to facilitate cross border trade, particular the ICBTs, such as the Simplified Trade Regime (STR), COMESA Free Movement Protocols, the COMESA Green Pass, the COMESA Gender Policy, Framework for the Comprehensive for Women and Border Traders in the COMESA Region, among others.

While recognizing the contribution of cross border trade to development, which include, employment creation, improved livelihoods, food security among other, it is important to acknowledge that a significant proportion of it happens informally. As a result, government do not fully generate revenue from the informal cross border trade. Some of the drivers of informality include the high transaction costs and delays, corruption, insecurity and gender based harassment. Furthermore, limited awareness, common understanding as well as transparency regarding the rules and regulations on customs, and immigration and trade facilitation measures, and at times multiple document requirements in different formats and with different data elements increase the cost and time of formal cross border trade.

**Purpose of the Assignment:** The assignment seeks to develop a write up and develop simplified regulations with comprehensive communication to assist the ICBTs better understands cross border trading regulations.

- Conduct a communication strategy baseline survey at all targeted border post which Mozambique and Republic of South Africa.
- Review of various instrument, framework and policy document on ICBTs and human mobility including the COMESA.
- Develop and simplify write up on border trade regulations between Eswatini and Mozambique
- Develop tailor made IEC, multi-media materials and messages tailored for key stakeholders using various as appropriate;
- Develop a budget and indicators to monitor and evaluate the activities, in order to measure the impact on archiving the overall objectives of the project.

**Scope of the Assignment:** This assignment will be undertaken under the supervision of the National Coordinator, the direct supervision of the program Officer of our fiscal agent, in close coordination with CIEAES Coordinator and WLSA Programs Manager. The assignment will be undertaken over a period of 15 working days. The consultant will also participate and present at a technical/strategic level workshop or forums, which will include engagement with the immigration officials.

The Consultant will perform the following:

- a. **Inception report**; the consultant will be expected to prepare an inception report, including methodology for how they will approach the assignment. This will include a breakdown of work timelines and overview of stakeholders to be engaged during the assignment;
  
- b. **Field work to conduct a baseline survey at all targeted border post**; the consultant will carry out field work to interact with a cross of stakeholders, such as central government, immigration, SRA and trade policy makers, border officials, Defense Forces and High Commissioners for both countries. These interactions will provide an opportunity for the consultant to gain a firsthand experience and understanding the needs of the different stakeholders. The consultation will be undertaken in all the borders which provides entrance to the Republic of South Africa and Mozambique.
  - i. Lavumisa/ South Africa
  - ii. Mhlumeni/Mozambique
  - iii. Lomasha/Mozambique
  - iv. Ngwenya/South Africa
  - v. Mahamba/ South Africa
  
- c. **Develop and Simplify write and develop a strategy to lobby MoFA and MoHA**: Based on the field of work, the consultant will develop and simplify write ups on border regulations especially Mozambique and Eswatini.

### **Criteria for Submission of Proposal for Bid**

The consultant(s) shall have:

- Experience in informal cross boarder trading issues.
- Extensive experience (at least 3- 5 years) in drafting and interpretation of legal frames and policies.
- Demonstrate a strong understanding in informal trade border issues.
- Demonstrated high level of professionalism and an ability to work independently and in high pressure situations under tight deadlines.
- Have an understanding of working with informal traders especially women.
- Fluent in both English and siSwati

### **How to apply:**

Coalition for Informal Economy Associations in Eswatini now invites eligible Individual Consultants to indicate their interest in providing the Services. Interested candidate must submit a Proposal providing information including proposed financial cost for the assignment, demonstrating that he/she has the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the services by email: [info.cieas@yahoo.com](mailto:info.cieas@yahoo.com) and copy [wlsaswazilad@gmail.com](mailto:wlsaswazilad@gmail.com).

**The proposal is due on the 20 April 2021**

