



CALL FOR PROPOSAL – INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT

ASSIGNMENT TITLE: Mapping Issues for Formulating a Strategic Plan for the African Centre for the Study and Research on Migration

Reference No.: AUC/DSA/C/009

1. BACKGROUND AND INTRODUCTION

In 2016 the AUC evaluated the 2006 Migration Policy Framework for Africa (MPFA). Among others, the evaluation made three findings/observations, and respective recommendations as follows:

- a) The bulk of migration in Africa (about two thirds) takes place within the region, and less than 22 percent of migrants from Africa emigrate outside of Africa.
- b) There is limited reliable and up-to-date migration data and analysis on Africa, which continues to hinder evidence based policy-making.
- c) In line with this finding, the evaluation recommended that there is need for the Continent to establish a continental facility that would conduct research and generate data on migration in order to facilitate evidence based migration policy formulation and programming.

Following the evaluation, the AUC revised the 2006 MPFA, which included formulating a plan of action for its implementation: The Plan of Action (2018 – 2030) of the revised MPFA. The revised MPFA and its plan of action were adopted by the AU Assembly in January 2018. One of the priority activities in the MPFA Plan of Action (2018 – 2030) is the establishment of a Continental migration observatory and research/study centre.

Given the magnitude of intra-Africa migration on the Continent, the dearth of information on the phenomenon, the appetite by Member States to manage migration (and the need for evidence based policy formulation and programming) and the enormity of human trafficking/migrant smuggling, in 2006 the AU endorsed a decision to establish the African Centre for the Study and Research on Migration (the Centre) in Mali (Executive Council Decision Doc. EX.CL/290 (IX) ADD.2).

In January 2018 the Executive Council reaffirmed this decision through Executive Council Decision EX.CL/987(XXXII) urged the Commission in collaboration with the Government of the Republic of Mali (GoM) to expedite the process towards the establishment of the Centre by submitting to the relevant AU organs the administrative, financial and legal implications of establishing the Centre. Through (Assembly/AU/Dec.758(XXXIII)), the 33rd Ordinary Session of the AU of February 2020 adopted the statute establishing the African Centre for the Study and Research on Migration as a Specialized Technical Office of the Commission.

1.1 Purpose, Objectives and Functions of the Centre

Purpose

- a) To improve the overall migration governance regime in Africa;

Objectives

- a) Advance the knowledge base of the African Continent on migration and mobility issues;
- b) Contribute to evidence-based interventions on migration in Africa;

Functions and Activities of the Centre

Working collaboratively with the African Migration Observatory, the Continental Operational Centre for Combating Irregular Migration and other migration research and capacity building institutions in Africa and beyond, the Centre shall have the following core functions:

- a) Interpret migration data and compile periodic reports on migration trends and patterns in Africa and between Africa and other regions;
- b) Undertake empirical, applied research on all aspects of migration and mobility and facilitate actionable migration policy formulation and implementation for Member States and RECs;
- c) Prepare and disseminate a journal and periodic reports the state of migration and migration governance in Africa;
- d) Prepare position papers on migration and mobility for the African Union;
- e) Promote policies that foster the development impact of migration and address its negative impacts on the Continent;
- f) Monitor and evaluate the implementation of migration policies on the Continent;
- g) Establish a platform for sharing and disseminating information on migration;
- h) Provide technical assistance, training and capacity building on migration and mobility to the AU Commission, AU organs, Member States and RECs;

- i) Provide a platform for experts and the political, diplomatic and academic communities to debate migration and mobility issues on the Continent;
- j) Serve as an interface between Member States, RECs, African/African Diaspora think tanks and civil society organizations on the migration debate;

1.2 Towards Operationalizing the Centre

On 19 March 2021 the AU Commission and the GoM inaugurated the Centre, paving the way for its operationalization. The first step towards operationalizing the Centre is the development of a 5-year strategic plan.

Within the context of the Centre's twin mandates of research and capacity building on migration in Africa, it is envisaged that the strategic plan would be informed by a gap analysis of these focus areas on the Continent.

Pursuant to the foregoing, the AU Commission wishes to commission consultants to conduct a mapping of the migration research and capacity building landscape on the Continent, «**Mapping Issues for Formulating a Strategic Plan for the African Centre for the Study and Research on Migration**»

2. OBJECTIVES OF THE ASSIGNMENT

Within the context of its mandate, and in order for the *African Centre for the Study and Research on Migration* to provide research and capacity building initiatives that are current, relevant and responsive to the African migration agenda, it is important that it formulates a strategic plan that is informed by evidence on the ground through a mapping exercise.

The assignment, therefore, will have the following objectives:

- i) Establish the gaps in research on migration in Africa since 2000 in specific migration thematic areas as prioritized in the AU Migration Policy Framework for Africa and by the AU Commission;
- ii) Identify institutions that conduct research and training/capacity building on migration in Africa and their specific areas of focus and target groups;
- iii) Assess the feasibility of establishing an African journal on migration.
- iv) Conduct a gap analysis of the capacity building needs assessment of Member States and RECs in the area of migration.

3. SCOPE OF WORK

The assignment will have four components that will be conducted concurrently. All components will be conducted within the framework of the thematic areas of AU MPFA as follows:

Component 1: An annotated bibliography of research on migration in; (65 days)

Component 2: A mapping of institutions that conduct research and training/capacity building on migration in Africa; (5 days);

Component 3: A mapping of African journals on migration; (20 days)

Component 4: A capacity building needs assessment of Member States and RECs in the area of migration. (40 days)

On its completion, the mapping exercise report will be validated by stakeholders in a 2-day workshop (4 days).

2.1 Component 1: An annotated bibliography ¹ of research on migration in Africa

In order for the Centre to provide research interventions that are current, relevant and responsive to the African migration agenda, it is critical that it conducts a mapping of the landscape to determine the gaps, and identify priority areas. Thus, the focus of Component 1 will be to identify the future research needs of the Centre within the context of the priorities of the MPFA and the AUC departments, agencies and programs with migration responsibilities.

Activity 1: Using the «[*AU Migration Policy Framework for Africa \(MPFA\) Plan of Action: 2018 – 2030*](#)» and the needs of the AUC as the basis for the Commission's migration research priorities, the assignment will prepare an annotated bibliography of research that has been conducted on the respective pillars of the MPFA, identify gaps, and recommend areas for future research.

Deliverables

An annotated bibliography of research that has been completed on the AU Commission's migration priority areas (pillars), and recommendations for future research.

Timeframe

¹ According to Cornell University, an annotated bibliography is a list of citations to books, articles, and documents. Each citation is followed by a brief (usually about 150 words) descriptive and evaluative paragraph, the annotation. The purpose of the annotation is to inform the reader of the relevance, accuracy, and quality of the sources cited.

Annotations vs. Abstracts

Abstracts are the purely descriptive summaries often found at the beginning of scholarly journal articles or in periodical indexes. Annotations are descriptive and critical; they may describe the author's point of view, authority, or clarity and appropriateness of expression.

65 days (Nov 2021– Jan 2022)

2.2 Component 2: A mapping of African migration research and capacity building institutions

As the Centre establishes itself on the Continent and identifies a niche in its mandated areas, it is critical that it has adequate knowledge of other players on the landscape. This will facilitate collaboration between the Centre and other players, and eliminate possible duplication. In this regard, the assignment will identify institutions on the Continent that are conducting research and capacity building in the area of migration, their areas of focus, and identify gaps that could be exploited by the Centre and areas of possible collaboration between the Centre and the other institutions.

Activity 1: Identify African institutions that are conducting research and capacity building on migration and, with the MPFA as a reference point, identify areas that are not being addressed by, and possible areas for collaboration with the African institutions.

Deliverables

A report that presents a list of institutions that are conducting research and capacity building on migration in Africa, and identifies gaps and areas for possible collaboration between the Centre and the other institutions.

Timeframe

5 days spread over one month (Nov 2021)

2.3 Component 3: A mapping of African journals on migration

The Centre envisages establishing a journal that will focus on issues that are pertinent to the Continent within the framework of the migration priority areas that are contained in the MPFA. To this end, the assignment will conduct a mapping of African journals dealing with migration issues in Africa, identify existing gaps within the context of the African migration agenda as contained in the MPFA, and identify a niche that can be exploited by the prospective journal to be established by the Centre.

Activity 1: Conduct a mapping of African journals on migration, their focus areas, and identify existing gaps within the context of the MPFA with a view to establishing niche areas for the proposed African journal on migration and mobility.

Deliverables

A report that presents a list of African journals on migration and mobility, their areas of focus, identifies existing gaps within the context of the MPFA, and provides pointers on possible areas of focus for the proposed African journal on migration and mobility.

Timeframe

20 days spread over 3 months (Nov – Dec 2021)

2.4 Component 4: A capacity building needs assessment of Member States and RECs in the area of migration

In 2018, the AU Commission conducted an [«Assessment of the Capacity Building Needs of African Union Member States and Regional Economic Communities to Manage Migration»](#). The overall objective of the assessment was to identify the capacity building/training needs of Member States and RECs in the area of migration governance with a view to initiating a capacity building/training programme for Member States and RECs based on the identified needs. As the Centre readies itself to formulate its 5-year strategic plan, there is need to update the 2018 assessment and provide pointers for areas of intervention.

Activity 1: Conduct an assessment to update the 2018 **«Assessment of the Capacity Building Needs of African Union Member States and Regional Economic Communities to Manage Migration»**.

Deliverables

An updated report of the 2018 **«Assessment of the Capacity Building Needs of African Union Member States and Regional Economic Communities to Manage Migration»**.

Timeframe

40 days spread over 4 months (Nov 2021 – Feb 2022)

2.5 Validation of the Mapping Exercise

Following its completion, the mapping exercise report will be subjected to a validation by stakeholders in a 2-day workshop. Stakeholders include the following: RECs (representing themselves and their Member States), regional CSO umbrella bodies, African academic institutors conducting research and training on migration, and the AU Coordinating Committee on Migration.

Deliverables

A final report of the **«Mapping Issues for Formulating a Strategic Plan for the African Centre for the Study and Research on Migration»**.

Timeframe

4 days (Feb 2022)

4. DURATION / TENURE OF APPOINTMENT

The assignment will be conducted over a period of 4 months, from November 2021 - February 2022. The assignment will be home based, with possibility of travel in accordance with COVID-19 travel restrictions and protocols in the countries of travel. Include. Should there be need for travel, the costs will be covered by AUC.

5. CONSULTANCY FEES

The Africa Union shall pay the Consultant daily fees commensurate with the number of days worked in accordance with:

- (i) Timeframes agreed upon between the AUC and the Consultant, and
- (ii) Specific key deliverables as provided in the payment schedule in section 10 below.

The total fees and costs for this assignment shall not exceed US\$ 44,000.

GOVERNANCE AND SUPPORT BY AU COMMISSION

The Consultant will report to the Director of the African Centre for the Study and Research on Migration, through the Senior Technical Adviser in the Department of Health, Humanitarian Affairs & Social Development who will provide overall supervision. The Consultant will provide his/her own equipment, stationery and internet access.

6. REQUIRED EXPERTISE

Interested consultant must provide information demonstrating the required qualifications and proven experience and track-record in conducting assignments of a similar magnitude. Bids must provide the qualifications and experience of all individual experts proposed for the assignment.

Consultants proposed for the assignment must have the following:

Academic Qualifications

- i) Minimum of a Master's degree in the field of social sciences, law, international relations, migration or related fields.

Technical experience/competencies

- i) Minimum work experience of 5 years working in the area of migration in Africa;
- ii) Demonstrable technical experience in the areas of migration research, training and capacity building;
- iii) Experience in establishing and managing academic journals;
- iv) Strong oral presentation, interpersonal and networking skills,
- v) In-depth knowledge of contemporary migration issues in Africa.

Other skills/competencies

- i) Experience on similar assignments in Africa;
- ii) Experience and ability to interact with senior government officials, AUC and representatives of multilateral and bilateral agencies in Africa;
- iii) Experience and ability to navigate political processes in highly sensitive settings;
- iv) Excellent drafting/writing and analytical skills;

- v) Strong interpersonal, networking and presentation skills'
- vi) Previous experience working with the AUC, the UN and other multi-lateral organizations would be an added advantage;

Language: Fluency in English and other AU official languages.

7. EVALUATION AND QUALIFICATION CRITERIA

Technical Proposal Evaluation points		
1.	General Education, Qualification and Relevant Training	35
Experience Related to the Assignment		
1.	Relevant Experience on the assignment	65
2.	Total	100

8. REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION

Interested Consultants are required to submit the following:

Technical Proposal

- a) The Consultant's capability statement;
- b) The Consultant's understanding of the assignment and proposed methodology;
- c) Curriculum Vitae of the Consultant.
 - The technical proposal shall not exceed 10 pages (excluding CVs).
 - CVs shall not exceed 5 pages.

Financial Proposal

A detailed financial proposal

9. PAYMENT SCHEDULE

The payment schedule for fees will be as follows:

Description	Percentage of payment
Submission of inception reports for Components 1 – 4	(10%)
Submission of draft reports for Components 1 - 4	(30%)
Submission of final reports: Components 1 - 4	(60%)
