Independent Consultant – Gender Lead

Strengthening the SDGs
Kenya Forum as an Accountability Platform for Gender and Development
About Us

Development Initiatives (DI) is an independent international development organisation working on the use of data to drive poverty eradication and sustainable development.

We work to ensure that decisions about the allocation of finance and resources result in an end to poverty, increase the resilience of the world’s most vulnerable people, and ensure no one is left behind. We want these decisions to be underpinned by good quality, transparent data and evidence on poverty and resources, and lead to increased accountability and sustainable long-term outcomes.

DI was established in 1993, and since then our partnerships across the world have enabled us to expand from a small organisation in south-west England to a staff of over 70 people working in Kenya, Nepal, Uganda, the UK and the US.

Our work

We believe there are enough resources in the world to consign extreme poverty to history, but poor or inaccurate information means these resources are not reaching those who most need them. While data alone will not end poverty, it is a vital catalyst for increasing knowledge, providing clarity and improving decision-making at local, national, regional and global levels.

Our work focuses on three key areas:

1. Measuring the progress of people out of poverty
   Our work on poverty is about driving commitments and investment towards improving poverty data, and drawing on existing data to start building a clearer and more accurate picture of poverty

2. Investments to end poverty and build resilience
   Our work on resources is about informing national, regional and international actors on how to mobilise, track and improve the targeting and effectiveness of the many different resources that can address poverty, vulnerability and crisis

3. Data use of sustainable development
   Our work on data use is about breaking down barriers to data use, improving data availability and usability, and helping people use data effectively in order to drive efforts to end poverty and build resilience
Purpose of the Assignment

Development Initiatives (DI), hosts the SDGs Kenya Forum Secretariat and is a strategic partner in the implementation of the Strengthening the SDGs Kenya Forum as an Accountability Platform for Gender and Development Project funded by Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

The purpose of the consultancy is to provide the SDG Kenya Forum day-to-day support in the implementation of the BMGF project, including all substantive and administrative matters. 80% of the consultant’s time will be allocated to the BMGF project and 20% will be spent on strengthening overall SDG Kenya Forum programme work. Your role will be to support the SDGs Kenya Forum and lead in engaging county governments in integrating and implementing the SDGs, specifically Goal 5, into county integrated development plans and policies.

The consultant while reporting to the SDG Kenya Forum project manager will work closely with the DI project lead and Senior project manager. The DI project lead will work closely with the Forum to facilitate coherence across all outputs in the project ensuring a DI approach in all processes and reports submitted to the donor under this project.

Governance and accountability

The lead for this assignment from DI is Martha Bekele, Lead Analyst East Africa (martha.bekele@devinit.org) and workplan will be managed by Mariam Ibrahim, Head of Africa Operations (mariam.ibrahim@devinit.org). Information and updates will be shared between the consultant, The SDG Kenya Forum and the DI team on a regular basis to ensure that the process is on track and findings align with the overall assignment objectives for Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF).

Guiding principles and values

The consultant is expected to respect confidentiality of data and, where necessary, protect the anonymity of respondents involved in assignments. In line with DI’s belief in transparency of data, all data resulting from the project (except for confidential information) will be made publicly available in a usable format in partnership with SDG Kenya Forum.
Technical duties

1. Provide technical support to the Implementing Partners
   - Provide gender advice and support to the partners implementing the BMGF project to integrate gender.
   - Ensure the interventions mainstream the objects and targets of SDG5 in implementation
   - Support in updating and sharing with the forum members developments and knowledge tools on gender and advocacy
   - Conduct trainings in Gender and Advocacy to implementing partners and other stakeholders

2. Project Management
   - Monitor and report on gender and SDG5 issues in the country
   - Prepare advocacy reports on integrating Gender and use these reports to lobby and advocate for gender in the 6 intervention counties (namely Kitui, Kajiado, Kisumu, Nakuru, Kilifi and Bomet)

3. Networking and Coordination
   - Liaise with key national stakeholders, key domestic political and civic actors, civil society organizations, international NGOs, UN partners and donors in the country to facilitate and enhance contribution towards the implementation of the gender
   - Develop advocacy materials to share with Policy makers.
   - Build the Gender Thematic Group Platform (online & offline)
   - Strengthen the Gender Thematic Group through increase in numbers, meetings, advocacy issues raised, learning & sharing and partnerships

4. Knowledge management and knowledge sharing
   - Provide brief updates on the development of gender related issues in the country.
   - Aid in data collection, compiling lessons learned, establishing indicators to support knowledge sharing on SDG Goal 5.
   - Assist in the development of concept notes, project documents and policy frameworks and research area and gender issues for best practices as directed by supervisor.
   - Support in writing stories related to the project developments as they relate to gender equality issues.
   - Analyze and periodically report on the progress on gender equality and empowerment of women and girls’ initiatives in the country.

Other duties
- Support the communication assistant to develop social Media gender content to promote the SDG5
- Develop and disseminate public relations materials that increase our visibility amongst stakeholders
• Work closely with the Forum Coordinator and Communication assistant to write content for annual reports, newsletter, and publications

Professional Qualification

• A minimum of 5 years’ proven experience working on advocacy, gender and women’s empowerment issues
• Ability to critically analyse gender and inclusion in development and build capacity of staff and partners to integrate gender in their advocacy work
• Familiarity with national and international instruments and commitments in gender and working with a wide range of actors across the development sector with experience of working with government and/or CSOs on matters gender.
• Advanced computer skills in all MS Office packages.
• Knowledge and experience of working on gender issues including integrating SDGs in the development agenda.
• Excellent working relationships with County Governments on matters gender.
• Experience working on SDGs, in particular SDG 5, with national and county governments, civil society organization, international organizations and development partners.
• Experience working on gender, and social inclusion or accountability projects or programmes
• Experience of working in a matrix or project-based environment
• Qualitative research methods including primary and secondary research

Duration and indicative timelines

The consultancy is for a period of one year reviewed every quarter.

Communication authority

The consultant will maintain the following communication protocols for this assignment:

For e-mail correspondence: The consultant will use their official e-address for all correspondence related to this assignment for internal and external communications. The nominated DI Point of Contact will be copied on all correspondence to external parties that relate with delivery of the work for the project.

For phone call / Skype and other virtual meetings: The consultant will record a file note using approved tools for each virtual meeting and will file using the accorded DI folders for the project.
Development Initiatives (DI) is an international development organisation that focuses on putting data-driven decision-making at the heart of poverty eradication.

Our vision is a world without poverty that invests in human security and where everyone shares the benefits of opportunity and growth.

We provide rigorous information to support better decisions, influence policy outcomes, increase accountability and strengthen the use of data to eradicate poverty.

Copyright © 2020 Development Initiatives
We encourage dissemination of our work provided a reference is included.

Contacts:

Mariam Ibrahim
Head of Africa Operations
mariam.ibrahim@devinit.org

Martha Bekele
Lead Analyst East Africa
martha.bekele@devinit.org

To find out more about our work visit:
www.devinit.org
Twitter: @devinitorg
Email: info@devinit.org

Development Initiatives is the trading name of Development Initiatives Poverty Research Ltd, registered in England and Wales, Company No. 06368740, and DI International Ltd, registered in England and Wales, Company No. 5802543. Registered Office: North Quay House, Quay Side, Temple Back, Bristol, BS1 6FL, UK.