

Annex 1 Terms of reference for an evaluation of the results of the Africa Commission: Realising the potential of Africa's Youth

1. Background

In May 2009 the Africa Commission launched the report “Realising the Potential of Africa's Youth”. The report was the result of an initiative by the Danish Prime Minister taken in 2008 to gather a group of mostly African Heads of State and Government, politicians, experts, business people, and representatives from international and regional organisations as well as the academic world to address Africa's development challenges. The aim of the Commission was to present new and creative strategies to revitalize and strengthen international development cooperation with Africa with a particular focus on growth and employment for the growing population in Africa. Apart from its own meetings, the Commission organised a number of thematic workshops involving many stakeholders from the private sector, civil society and governments.

The work of the Commission resulted in an overall recommendation to refocus international development cooperation on support for private sector-led growth, to create employment in particular for the young. In addition, five concrete initiatives to address competitiveness, growth and employment were launched.

The five initiatives are the following:

1. Benchmarking African Competitiveness – a project implemented by the Global Competitiveness Network of the World Economic Forum (WEF).
2. Access to Investment Finance and Capacity Development for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises – establishment of the African Guarantee Fund (AGF) and the associated Capacity Development Trust Fund
3. Unleashing African Entrepreneurship – the Youth Employment Facility implemented by the International Labour Organisation (ILO) in collaboration with the Youth Employment Network (YEN)
4. Access to Sustainable Energy – the Sustainable Energy Fund for Africa (SEFA) implemented by the African Development Bank (AfDB)
5. Promoting Post-Primary Education and Research – two projects implemented by the ILO (the Skills for Youth Employment and Rural Development in Southern and Western Africa project) and the Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA) (the UniBRAIN initiative – Universities, Business and Research in Agricultural Innovation).

The five initiatives span a wide spectrum of interventions reaching from the macro level (the WEF project dealing with competitiveness and the enabling environment for growth); meso- or sector-level interventions (the African Guarantee Fund and the SEFA, both addressing the issue of access to finance) down to the micro level where the two ILO-implemented projects and the UniBRAIN initiative are very directly facilitating the creation of jobs for youth, while at the same time experimenting and demonstrating approaches that can be up-scaled as well as replicated in other areas and countries.

Work on preparing the initiatives for implementation started in the second half of 2009, with actual implementation on the ground starting from 2010. The initiatives also cover a range of partners and countries as it was the ambition of the Africa Commission to act as a catalyst for more funding to these areas. Most of the initial funding was provided by the Danish Government, but other development partners, including the Spanish Government as well as the African Development Bank, provided sizable resources allowing the initiatives to get off the ground. Monitoring and evaluation was moved from the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs to the AUC-AfDB-UNECA Joint Secretariat Support Office (JSSO) in 2010.

In mid-2013 the JSSO drafted a brief progress report of the five initiatives. In addition, the initiatives have been subject to normal project procedures in the organisations responsible, including monitoring and more or less regular reviews. An evaluation of the ILO-projects is being carried out as these projects are now coming to an end.

The progress report from 2013 concluded that: “As of mid-2013, all of the initiatives are under full implementation and have started to yield results at the level of their intended beneficiaries, though some of these results are yet to be systematically documented. Also, all but one of the initiatives already appears to be successful in attracting additional resources allowing the activities to be scaled up and replicated.” And further “Even so, it is still early days with respect to the question of whether the initiatives will live up to the expectations placed in them in the longer run in terms of sustainable improvements in the situation of the ultimate beneficiaries, the African youth, and in terms of the scale and scope of the impact achieved.”

2. Objective of the Evaluation

The objective of the evaluation is to document and assess the results of the Africa Commission both in terms of its policy impact as well as the results of the five initiatives.

3. Output

An inception report of maximum 10 pages outlining the main lines of enquiry, detailed description of methodology and an overview of the approach taken to ensure a credible documentation and assessment of the results of the Africa Commission.

A report of maximum 25 pages in English excluding four pages of summary in English as well as annexes including a maximum of five pages for each of the five initiatives.

4. Scope of Work

The Evaluation should include but not necessarily be limited to:

- Document and assess the contribution of the Africa Commission with respect to promoting a refocused development agenda – in Africa, in Denmark and internationally – as expressed through the ten recommendations of the Commission (ref. Chapter 3 in the report).
- Briefly describe the five initiatives and progress to date. Document and assess the results from the five initiatives – where results can be outputs, outcomes and impact, depending on how mature the projects/programmes are. The assessment should be based on available documentation and what can be assessed through field work and interviews with development partners and beneficiaries. Results must be assessed both against the project/programme objectives as laid out in the project documentation as well as the contribution to achieving the overall objectives agreed in the Africa Commission.
- Analyse the policy changes and the changes supported by the five initiatives and assess whether they are transformative. Specific attention should be given to documenting and assessing

change for youth (men and women) not only in terms of numbers but also whether the changes were transformative.

- Analyse why changes happened/did not happen as a result of the five initiatives. The analysis must take into account that other factors (apart from the support rendered) are also influential in generating results or hampering the generation of these.
- Document and assess the initiatives' success in attracting additional finance, replication and scaling up.

5. Input and working method

The Evaluation will be carried out in accordance with the Danida Evaluation Guidelines (January 2012) and the OECD/DAC Evaluation Quality Standards (2010). The Evaluation must be based on a sound methodology. The evaluation design must be methodologically rigorous and credible when judging both the internal and external validity of the results.

Bidders are free to propose the most appropriate designs for responding to the evaluation questions indicated above. The Evaluation should be carried out by a team of two consultants starting November 9, 2015 and delivering a final report on March 14, 2016. The maximum budget for the assignment is DKK 900,000. In addition to the travel budget for the field work, the budget should also include three trips for the team leader to Copenhagen.

The Evaluation will take as a starting point the report from the Africa Commission "Realising the Potential of Africa's Youth" and the recommendations herein. Relevant documentation would include: Background work and rationale leading to the five initiatives, programme and other preparation documentation for the initiatives; monitoring and review reports; and where available evaluation reports.

It is expected that the consultants will visit Abidjan, Accra, Geneva and Nairobi to have discussions with officials in the African Development Bank (SEFA and AGF), FARA, ILO and the World Economic Forum, and the African Guarantee Fund, respectively. In addition, there will be project visits in these countries. Final decision as to project visits will be taken in the inception phase based on a concrete proposal from the organisations and the consultants.

The assessment of the policy impact will be done through a series of interviews with participants in or persons involved with the Africa Commission and other relevant people and organisations. The list of interviewees will be decided in the inception phase.

Proposed Evaluation Calendar (tentative)

2015/2016

Submission of proposal	October 19
Selection of the winning company	October 21
Start-up meeting in Copenhagen	November 16
Inception Report submitted	December 8
Discussion (in person) in ERG of the Inception Report (Ministry of Foreign Affairs)	December 15

Fieldwork	January/February
Presentation of preliminary findings to ERG (via Video Conferencing)	February 9
Draft Evaluation Report submitted	March 2
Discussion (in person) in ERG of draft Evaluation Report (Ministry of Foreign Affairs)	March 14
Final Evaluation Report	March 21

6. Qualifications of the Evaluation Team

The Team will consist of two consultants that should have substantial experience in private sector led growth and financing; creation of jobs for youth as well as experience with evaluation of development assistance (i.e. evaluations that conform to the DAC evaluation definition).

The two consultants must both have the following general qualifications:

- Master's Degree or equivalent in social sciences or other relevant field
- A minimum of 10 years of professional experience in the field of economic development, of which at least five in or regarding Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA)
- Experience with evaluation of development assistance

Together, they must fulfil the following requirements concerning the adequacy for the assignment:

- Specialist knowledge and practical working experience in the general field of private-sector development in SSA
- Specialist knowledge and working experience in job creation, in particular for youth
- Knowledge and experience in vocational and other employment-oriented training
- Knowledge and experience in fostering entrepreneurship and SME development
- Thorough up-to-date knowledge of the main development issues and agendas in and concerning SSA, in particular regarding sustainable economic development; experience from working with some of the main African development institutions (e.g. AU, AfDB, UNECA, NEPAD) is desirable
- Knowledge of financing and investment mechanisms facilitating private-sector participation in financing development
- Experience in policy analysis regarding economic development in SSA

Both of the consultants must have the following experience in the region and language proficiency:

- Working experience from various sub-regions of SSA
- Fluency in written and oral English
- Working knowledge of French an advantage

The approach paper – response to the tender – should clearly state who of the proposed team members covers which area also with a view to ensuring complementarity.

Management of the Evaluation

a. The Evaluation will be managed by EVAL being responsible for

- Coordinate with all relevant evaluation stakeholders.
- Ensure that quality control is carried out throughout the evaluation process.
- Provide feedback to the Evaluation Team. Comment on draft versions of reports. Approve final reports.
- Organise and chair meetings of the Evaluation Reference Group.
- Organise presentation of evaluation results and follow-up on the Evaluation to internal Danida Programme Committee, the Danida Board and the Minister for Foreign Affairs. AFR will develop the management response).
- Advice relevant stakeholders on matters related to the Evaluation (reference is made to the Codes of Conduct, which form part of the Danida Evaluation Guidelines).

b. EVAL will be supported by an Evaluation Reference Group. The group will be comprised of staff from the Evaluation Office (EVAL), Technical Advisory Services (TAS) and Africa Department (AFR), and possibly 1-2 resource persons to be identified by EVAL.

The tasks of the ERG are to:

- Comment on the draft inception report and the draft evaluation report with a view to ensure that the Evaluation is based on factual knowledge about the Africa Commission and the initiatives and how it has been implemented
- Support the implementation, dissemination and follow up on possible recommendations.

c. The Evaluation Team is responsible for the following:

- Prepare and carry out the Evaluation according to the ToR, the approved Inception Report.
- Be responsible to the management for the findings, conclusions and recommendations of the Evaluation.
- Ensure that quality assurance is carried out and documented throughout the evaluation process according to the Consultant's own Quality Assurance Plan as described in the proposal.
- Report to the evaluation management regularly about progress.
- Organise and coordinate the fieldwork on locations in Africa and Geneva, including organising logistics for the Team, setting up meetings with relevant project holders and stakeholders.
- The Team Leader is responsible for the Team's reporting, proper quality assurance, and for the organisation of the work of the Team. The Team Leader will participate in the Reference Groups' meetings and other meetings as required.

7. Eligibility

The DAC evaluation principles of independence of the Evaluation Team will be applied. In situations where conflict of interest occurs, candidates may be excluded from participation, if their participation may question the independence and impartiality of the Evaluation. This will include for instance any

firm or individual consultant that has participated in the preparation, appraisal or implementation of the Africa Commission and the 5 initiatives.

Tenderers are obliged to carefully consider issues of eligibility for individual consultants and inform the Client of any potential issues relating to a possible conflict of interest (cf. Danida Evaluation Guidelines).