

**CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST:****RESEARCH ON WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION IN POLITICS IN THE NIGER DELTA****Background:**

Women's participation in politics in Nigeria and the Niger Delta region is peculiar, particularly the low number of women in elected positions, and the lack of response to prioritized concerns of women and girls' in political decision making which contributes to the continued social and economic marginalization of women and girls in Nigeria. This problem is pressing because the marginalization of women in Nigerian politics can be linked to the failure of the government to adequately address issues critical to women and there are limited opportunities for women to constructively engage with elected representatives to raise their concerns and persuade them to take action.

The 1985 Beijing declaration states that 30% of all positions in government should be given to women. In Nigeria, the National Gender Policy (NGP) declares 35% minimum gender representation. These policies are yet to be implemented in Nigeria as there is a continuing trend of male domination of political and other public positions and discrimination of women using party constitutions that relegate women to the background. In order to contribute in changing the narratives and projecting more women in the political space, a baseline research on situation analysis of current status of women's engagement in politics across **Akwa Ibom, Bayelsa and Rivers states** will be conducted showing statistics of women's participation in politics; both in appointive and elective positions. The research will also cover a comparative analysis of data from 2015 and after the 2019 elections across the three states. This will include stakeholder mapping of key groups and individuals involved in promoting or blocking women's engagement in politics such as political parties / politicians, consultations with key CSOs, desk and primary research in each of the three states.

SDN is looking for research organizations (not individuals) with the skill and expertise in conducting research and documentation.

**Requirements:**

Interested organizations should submit the following documents,

1. A research proposal (Max 2 pages- check annex)
2. An organizational profile demonstrating evidence of previous research in the Niger Delta region.
3. Evidence of capacity to manage a multi-state research within a short timeframe. This includes CVs of technical staff who would conduct the research

To apply for this consultancy, send the above listed requirements as an attachment to [kenny.oleru@stakeholderdemocracy.org](mailto:kenny.oleru@stakeholderdemocracy.org) copying [flora@stakeholderdemocracy.org](mailto:flora@stakeholderdemocracy.org) with **"APPLICATION TO CONDUCT RESEARCH"** as the subject of the mail.

Application Deadline: **12:00pm, February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

## TERMS OF REFERENCE (TOR) FOR THE RECRUITMENT OF A CONSULTANT FOR A RESEARCH

*NB: This document does not constitute a contract or promise to contract. All terms are subject to discussion with SDN.*

This document summarises the terms of reference for the consultant(s) to participate in the project named below.

### General Information:

- **Assignment Description:** Recruitment of Consultant (Research Organisations preferred) for a baseline research on women's participation in politics in the Niger Delta
- **Project Title:** Increasing Women's Participation in Politics in the Niger Delta
- **Duty Station:** Based in Port Harcourt, Rivers State with travels to Bayelsa and Akwa Ibom States
- **Duration of Research:** Research is in phases (pre-election and post-election)
- **Expected Start Date:** 4th February, 2019

### 1. BACKGROUND:

SDN is currently implementing a grant from the Open Society Initiative for West Africa (OSIWA) in partnership with the Nigerian Women Trust Fund (NWTF) targeted at *contributing to the promotion of gender equality in political representation and decision-making in Rivers State, and to contribute to greater understanding of women's status in politics across Akwa Ibom, Bayelsa and Rivers states.*

The marginalization of women in politics, particularly the low number of women in elected positions, and the lack of response to, and prioritization of women and girls' concerns in political decision making contributes to the continued social and economic marginalization of women and girls in the Niger Delta. As the 2019 elections approach, the project specifically aims to tackle two of the problems which contribute to the marginalization of women in politics:

1. High barriers to women running for, and securing, political office, and
2. The limited opportunities for women to constructively engage with elected representatives to raise their concerns and persuade them to take action.

This project aims to conduct a research which will serve as a baseline for future interventions promoting women's engagement in politics in the Niger Delta and a key output is the production and publication of a report on the status of women's engagement in politics in Bayelsa, Rivers and Akwa Ibom state.

### 2. Project Description

The project aims to contribute to the promotion of gender equality in political representation and decision-making in Rivers State by increasing women's engagement in politics and governance and help to promote and strategically influence key stakeholders, and provide technical supports to push for more female political representatives in the State.

Overall the project will aim to amplify the need for more women's engagement in politics and challenge gender discrimination within political spaces in Rivers state and seek to promote a more enabling environment for women to run for political office and to ensure political representative respond to and prioritise the needs of women and young women.

The project will focus on indigenous women who are actively involved in politics at national and state levels enabling them to re-strategize more effectively by creating a viable political channel through targeted advocacies to political gatekeepers, policy makers and other relevant male stakeholders. The project will also provide technical resources for

identified female aspirants to engage better with their constituencies in the process of constituency engagements. The project will include capacity development, structured issue-based campaigns, legislative engagement, constituency engagements, internal party politicking, lobbying influencers, strategic trans-generational mentoring and media/online engagements and sensitization.

### Objectives:

The general objective of this project is to contribute to the promotion of gender equality in political representation and decision-making in Rivers State, and to contribute to greater understanding of women's status in politics across Akwa Ibom, Bayelsa and Rivers States.

#### Specific Objectives

- I. To conduct a situation analysis of women's political participation in Akwa Ibom, Bayelsa and Rivers states.
- II. To progressively support a more enabling environment for women to run for political office
- III. To ensure political representatives respond to and prioritize the needs of women and young women

The objective of this **consultancy** is to conduct a situation analysis of women's political participation in Akwa Ibom, Bayelsa and Rivers states

### 3. Scope of consultancy/work:

The role of the team involved in delivering this work ("the Consultants") will be to:

- a) Conduct research on the current status of women's engagement in politics and the conduct of the 2019 elections in relation to this across Akwa Ibom, Bayelsa and Rivers states
  - I. Stakeholder mapping of key groups and individuals involved in promoting or blocking women's engagement in politics (Political parties, CSOs, politicians, influencers etc)
  - II. Consultation with key CSOs and individuals
  - III. Desk and primary research in each of the three states
- b) Produce a report summarising the status of women's engagement in politics in the three states and documenting what happened during the 2019 elections (e.g. numbers of women that ran, numbers of women that were elected)

### Roles and Responsibilities

- The consultant will draft and finalize research tools for data collection
- The consultant will report to key SDN/NWTF staff coordinating the research
- The consultant will assist in data collection during research
- The consultant will submit monthly reports on research progress to research coordinators
- The consultant will gather pre and post election statistics on women's participation in politics from INEC and Political Parties (APC, PDP, LP, ACCORD)
- SDN staff will provide contact of REC in three states to allow for accessibility of data
- SDN/NWTF will co-facilitate during FGDs
- NWTF staff will put together feedback from validation meeting
- SDN/NWTF will provide oversight and quality control of the entire process

#### 4. Personnel:

- Consultant(s), a research organisation preferred with technical staff able to cover Bayelsa, Rivers and Akwa Ibom state simultaneously
- SDN staff
- NWTF staff

#### 5. Outputs/deliverables

The deliverables expected under this consultancy are as follows. The Consultants will be expected either to contribute to or lead on the deliverable according to the brackets which follow.

- Desk research for relevant literature on women's participation in politics
- Field research in Akwa Ibom, Bayelsa and Rivers state
- Submission of first draft of research findings
- Present research findings in validation meeting

#### 6. Reporting and Coordination:

The Consultant will be asked to produce report on all desk and field related activities

The Consultants will in the first instance communicate with Flora Asieri and Roselynn Musa on all research matters. The Consultants will be asked to ensure timely responses to requests for communication by email, phone, or Skype.

#### 7. Timeframe, work plan and deadlines:

The expected duration of this consultancy is February 2019 – May 2019. The consultant is expected to meet set deadlines to ensure final production of report in May, 2019. A work plan is included below:

Task	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
Qualitative literature review		X						
Confirmation of all quantitative data sources		X						
Request historical quantitative data sources		X						
Qualitative literature review		X	X					
Request 2019 election quantitative data sources			X					
Compile and analyse quantitative data sources			X	X				

Design CSO consultations	X							
Conduct state CSO consultations		X						
Design Key Information Interview guides and Focus Group Discussion guides		X						
Finalise Interview and Focus Group participant selection			X					
Key informant interviews				X				
Focus group discussions				X				
Preliminary data analysis				X	X			
Analysis workshop with project team					X			
Produce full first draft of research report					X	X		
Validation workshop with state CSOs						X		
Finalisation of research						X	X	

#### 8. Budget, payments and invoicing:

The costs budgeted for the Consultants' contributions to this project are in Annex A. The Consultants will be asked to provide an invoice for payment at the end of each month during the project with a relevant breakdown, likely including the number of days worked that month and support related to this.

#### 9. SDN support/other dependencies:

This work will be carried out in all three states. Consultant must ensure quality of research. SDN and NWTF will work closely with and provide full support to the Consultants on all aspects of this work.

## Annex A – budget

### Annex 2: Proposed Report Structure

NB: this is a rough initial structure and can be added to and amended

- 1) Executive Summary
- 2) Introduction
- 3) Methodology
- 4) National context\*: providing an overview of the context in Nigeria, from ratified international conventions, through to the social norms governing women’s participation in politics.
- 5) Niger Delta context\*: moving from the national-level picture to provide information on the specific context in the Niger Delta, including general aspects of politics (e.g. high levels of engagement with cults and other groups to enforce political mandates) and their potential influence on women’s engagement in politics, through to specific issues governing women’s engagement in politics.
- 6) Women as citizens: how do women engage in politics in the Niger Delta?\*\*
  - a. Key findings (providing a summary of key findings from the analysis under this section)
  - b. Voter participation\*\*\*
  - c. Engagement in political debate and campaigning\*\*\*
  - d. Access to, and engagement with, political representatives\*\*\*
- 7) Women as politicians: how do women participate in formal politics in the Niger Delta?\*\*
  - a. Key findings (providing a summary of key findings from the analysis under this section)
  - b. Participation as aspirants and candidates in elections\*\*\*
  - c. Selection as candidates by the electorate\*\*\*
  - d. Women in appointed positions\*\*\*
  - e. The roles and actions of women in existing elected or non-elected positions\*\*\*
- 8) Conclusion

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\* The context should include analysis at the level of 1) social relations, 2) individuals, 3) collectives/groups/organisations, 4) and institutions (meaning both government and social institutions, as well as policies and legislation etc.). The below provide some guiding questions to consider for each of these:

#### Social relations

- What are the underlying social norms which affect women’s engagement in politics?
- How do this social norms, e.g. gender relations, identities and beliefs, constrain or promote women’s engagement in politics?

#### Individual

- Roles: What are the roles that women traditionally play/are expected to play? How does this influence women’s engagement in politics?
- Values: Is the value ascribed to women and men different? And how does this affect their engagement with politics?

- Resources and capacity: What are the resources and capacities (financial, networks, information, education etc.) required to engage in politics? And how do women and men's access to these differ?
- Participation: What is the current level and type of women's participation in politics? Are particular groups more able to participate than others? Are there groups who are particularly excluded and under-represented? Does this vary by location, ethnic group, and other characteristics?
- Key agents: Are there key individuals who are challenging the current context how have the potential to promote change? And are there individuals who are influential in blocking women's political participation?

#### Collective/organisational

- What groups exist (political parties, CSOs, religious groups, government services, cults etc.) and what role do they play in promoting or restricting women's engagement in politics?
- Do the actions of these groups create different barriers and enablers to women's engagement in politics as compared to men?

#### Institutional

- What are the policies, legislation and plans which exist that enable or prevent women's engagement in politics? How does this differ to men?
- Who/which institutions are responsible for promoting women's political rights and engagement?

\*\* In both sections, two general points of analysis must be covered: 1) the current status and trend with respect to women's engagement/participation, and 2) how this varies from men. Note that these sections will be drawn from data and research focussing on Akwa Ibom, Bayelsa and Rivers States.

\*\*\* For each sub-section of the analysis/findings, we should be sure to make use of both quantitative and qualitative data where available – i.e. for voter participation, we will not just be showing statistics on voting, we will be providing a qualitative analysis on the factors which enable or inhibit women's participation and how this varies from men.