TERMS OF REFERENCE AND CALL FOR PROPOSALS FOR CONSULTANCY TO UNDERTAKE A CONSULTANCY ON QUALITATIVE SAUTI ZA WANANCHI (SZW) IN KENYA.

SEPTEMBER 17TH, 2019

Background:
Twaweza means “we can make it happen” in Swahili. Twaweza works on enabling children to learn, citizens to exercise agency and governments to be more open and responsive in Tanzania, Kenya and Uganda. Our flagship programs include Uwezo, Africa’s largest annual citizen assessment to assess children’s learning levels, and Sauti za Wananchi (SzW), Africa’s first nationally representative mobile phone survey. We undertake effective public and policy engagement, through powerful media partnerships and global leadership of initiatives such as the Open Government Partnership. Twaweza’s main governance program in Kenya has been through the Sauti za Wananchi (Citizens’ views) initiative. Since 2015, Twaweza’s Sauti za Wananchi is Africa’s first nationally representative mobile phone panel survey in Africa has collected data on citizens’ voices on various topics such as drought and food availability, people’s opinions about governance, the quality of public service delivery, or citizens’ ability to exercise agency. Sauti za Wananchi was commissioned to bridge gaps in existing data landscape. Since it is crucial that citizens and policy makers’ dialogue effectively, Sauti za Wananchi by combining the statistical rigor and national representativeness of traditional, field-based surveys is expected to provide flexibility and frequency of a highly adaptable mobile phone platform where citizens can be included in public discourse and share about important issues of the day.

Rationale
This assignment will pilot sub-national level qualitative SzW in 4 counties of Kilifi, Makueni, Elgeyo Marakwet and Vihiga as part of the Twaweza broader strategy to redesign and improve our SzW initiative by gathering qualitative data that complements our quantitative SzW data. This also provides more detail on what explains SzW the findings. Broadly, the proposed qualitative approach will help improve our explanation of the reasons behind the findings reported in the quantitative SzW. We will also use this opportunity to understand the dynamics of citizen agency in these counties and collect evidence on psychometric profiles of people to help shape our engagement strategies.

Methodology:
The assignment will be highly qualitative and will be done through review of relevant documents, semi-structured interviews with key informants, focus group discussions and opportunistically collect observational data while in the field if and when events of importance to our work will be happening. We will organize separate focus group discussions for women and men and young and elders. This will allow us understand and compare gender and age specific citizens’ views, experiences and recommendations. We have selected four counties of Kilifi, Makueni, Siaya and Vihiga for this work to include at least one county at important stages of local governance experience/capacity/vibrancy. Makueni because it is an advanced sub-national OGP County. Vihiga because it is a potential sub-national OGP project site. Kilifi as a non-OGP county and to capture the diversity of Kenyan socio-political context.
Specific tasks and outputs:

a. Develop a comprehensive study design, including a theoretical grounding and definition of concepts; a follow-up; sampling procedures and sample size. The plan will be reviewed and approved by Twaweza.
b. Develop a detailed work plan and timeline to carry out the qualitative research activities, and a related budget.
c. Develop and pre-test tools for data collection
d. Carry out the research plan within the timeline provided, and provide a comprehensive field report.
e. Transcribe and analyze the data using modern analytical methods; all transcripts, lists of codes, analysis plans shared with Twaweza
f. Pro-actively share insights with Twaweza, participate in learning meetings and events, as requested.
g. Finalize the report taking Twaweza comments on board.

Expected Outputs and/or Deliverables:
1. Inception Report.
2. Field data collection plan including tools and targeted respondents.
3. Completed Report with Synthesized the information into two outputs; (Research report and 6-8 paged summary of the key findings).
4. A report should be produced in English language, simple in expression and easy to understand. The report format and text should be an A4 paper size, Times New Roman 12 and 1.5 spacing.
5. A POWERPOINT summary presentation of the findings and the analysis thereof (this will also be presented) to Twaweza in a learning event for verification, validation and provide feedback on the findings.

Timeline:
The contract will start 15th October 2019 to 30th December 2019. Twaweza desires consultancies that should not exceed 60 working days that will include preparation, data analysis, aggregation and documentation of the final report. Field data collection should be planned no later than 1st November 2019. Full report expected no later than 20th December 2019.

Qualifications:
At minimum, the CONSULTANCY must possess the following:
1. Demonstrable social science research experience.
2. A proven track record of relevant qualitative research experience
3. Proven experience with rigorous qualitative research analysis
4. Proven excellent synthesis skills of large qualitative datasets, and proven excellent
5. Good understanding of citizen agency and public policy advocacy environment in Kenya.
6. Having a relevant PhD degree is an added advantage.
7. Proven excellent synthesis skills of large datasets, and proven excellent.
8. Excellent analytical and report writing skills.
9. Clear, effective writer in English.
10. Personal skills: good communication, analytical and drafting skills;
11. Having access to technically qualified and competent research team an advantage.
12. Permitted /licensed to undertake research in Kenya.

Proposals will be evaluated on completeness and relevance of the proposal, demonstrated understanding of the assignment, experience in applying multiple methods in social sciences, established record in strong analysis and excellent writing and communication skills, successful experience in undertaking similar assignments in the rest past and good understanding of citizen agency and public policy advocacy environment in Kenya among others.

Please submit an expression of interest not more than 10 pages (double spacing) together with a CV and proposed budget to jobs@twaweza.org and cc to aasinguza@twaweza.org with “PROPOSAL TO CONDUCT QUALITATIVE SzW IN KENYA 2019” in the subject line not later than Friday 11th October 2019.