REVIEW OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENTS IN THE OIL AND GAS SECTOR TO DETERMINE THE EXTENT TO WHICH COMMENTS FROM CIVIL SOCIETY WERE INCOPORATED

Terms of reference (ToR) and call for Expression of Interest (EoI)

October 2021

1. Introduction

The Civil Society Coalition on Oil and Gas (CSCO) hosted by Advocates Coalition for Development and Environment (ACODE) and supported by Worldwide Fund for Nature (WWF) Uganda Country Office under the project, “Limiting negative impacts of oil and gas developments on nature, people and climate through civil society engagement and advocacy” intends to recruit a consultant to lead on the review of the Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIAs) for selected Uganda’s oil and gas projects. These include the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP), Tilenga, and Kingfisher. The goal of this exercise is to evaluate the extent to which comments generated and shared by the Civil Society Coalition on Oil and gas (CSCO) were considered in the final documents. These Terms of Reference (ToR) are therefore intended to guide the expression of interest to undertake the exercise, the scope, objectives of the study, and to ensure that the study provides insights into the contribution of CSCO to the ESIA processes for the selected oil and gas projects.

2. Background

Tilenga, EACOP, and Kingfisher projects have undergone a process of identifying their potential social and environmental impacts, and how these can be mitigated i.e., the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment(s). As part of the process, the proponents, mainly the International Oil Companies, the regulating agency – the Petroleum Authority of Uganda (PAU), and the environmental lead agency – National Environment Management Authority conducted public hearings to get comments and views from the public that would inform the completion and publication of Environment and Social Impact Statements (ESIS). CSCO generated a number of issues which were presented for consideration at all these events. Nonetheless, there has never been an attempt at establishing whether these comments were integrated in the final documents or not.
This is therefore an audit exercise aiming at determining the extent to which these comments were considered and integrated in the final documents that were approved by NEMA.

3. Objectives of the Study
The main objective of this study is to evaluate the contribution of CSCO in ESIA processes for the Tilenga, KFDA, and EACOP projects. Specifically, the study will:
   i. Examine the extent to which CSCO comments to the ESIA processes for Tilenga, KFDA, and EACOP projects informed the respective final ESISs.
   ii. Generate recommendations for better engagements in the future ESIA processes for projects of interest.

4. Scope and duration of the exercise
This review will target ESISs for three oil and gas projects, namely, Tilenga, Kigfisher, and the EACOP. The assignment will be a desk review of the ESIAAs and memorandum of issues from CSCO for the respective public hearings. The assignment is expected to last a maximum of three weeks, including a validation meeting with selected members of the CSCO.

5. Methodology
This assignment will rely on desk research methods, using corroboration techniques to compare the memoranda of issues shared and presented at the different public hearings with their respective ESIS. Scores of the proportion of comments submitted to those adopted and integrated in the final ESIS will then be generated.

There will be regular exchanges between the consultant and ACODE/CSCO and other ACODE-identified reviewers with the view of enriching the study during inception process and report writing. ACODE/CSCO will organize a validation meeting and any comments will be shared with the researcher to enrich the draft before final submission.

6. Expected Deliverables
The consultant will submit the following deliverables to ACODE within the agreed time frame. All submissions should be done in soft copies and hard copies as and when required.
   1. A draft report that will be presented to a team of researchers for comments and stakeholders for validation.
2. A final audit report of not more than 15 pages.

7. **Qualification Requirements**

The successful candidate for this assignment should possess the following:

- At least a Master’s Degree in Environmental sciences, Social Sciences; Law; Natural Resources Management; Development Studies; or related fields;
- Excellent understanding of the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment process.
- Extensive research experience and publication.
- Good analytical and documentation/report writing skills.
- Good communication and facilitation skills.
- Excellent command of oral (social) and written (academic) English language.

8. **Call for Expressions of Interest**

ACODE calls upon interested and competent researcher(s) to express interest to undertake an audit of the contribution of CSCO to the final ESIS of the Tilenga, KFDA, and EACOP projects. The Expression of Interest (EoI) should be in response to these ToR, and should consist of the following:

1. An understanding of the ToR.
2. Proposed Methodology for executing this assignment
3. Statement of researcher’s competencies to undertake the study.
4. A financial proposal.

The **deadline** for submission of expression of interest is **5th November, 2021**.

All Expressions of Interest should be hand-delivered or emailed to:

**Hand Deliveries**

ACODE Offices, Plot 96, Kanjokya Street, Kamwokya
P.O. Box P.O Box 29836, Kampala – UGANDA

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