

## **TERMS OF REFERENCE (TOR)**

### **Individual Consultant to Conduct University Innovation Ecosystem Assessment and provide support for strengthening Intellectual Property management practices for Mozambique Higher Education Institutions beneficiaries of the Research and Innovation Grant Projects**

**Project Name:** Africa Regional Scholarship and Innovation Fund for Applied Sciences, Engineering and Technology (RSIF Project) implementing the Strengthening of STEM Research and Innovation Capacity Mozambique component under the Improvement of Skills Development (MozSkills)

**Reference No:** KE-ICIPE-010/2024-CS-INDV

**Grant No.:** D347-3A

**Expected duration:** 30 days spread over 4 months

**Expected start date:** 23/09/2024

**Application deadline:** 16th August 2024 at 11:00 hrs EAT

#### **A. Introduction**

The government of Mozambique through its World Bank funded project on Improvement for Skills Development in Mozambique (MozSkills), joined the PASET partnership and contributed funds to the Regional Scholarship and Innovation Fund (Rsif) in 2021 for financing of PhD Scholarships and research, and innovation grants to Mozambican nationals and higher education institutions (HEI) and research institutes, respectively. The research and innovation grants aim at enhancing research capacity and promoting innovation in Mozambique.

To date, Rsif has competitively awarded 14 Research and Innovation grants to Mozambican faculty, researchers, and innovators. Six projects approved for funding in the 1st Call commenced implementation in June 2022. An additional six projects were selected and approved for funding on 6 September 2022, and commenced implementation by end of May 2023. Another 2 projects were selected and commenced implementation in December 2023.

Of the 14 grants awarded, four (4) grants under the Innovation Window dubbed the Institutional Innovation Capacity Building Program Grants (ICBP) are aimed at supporting the Mozambican Higher Education Institutions to strengthen their innovation ecosystems and create favorable environment that fosters a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship.

#### **B. Rationale**

Higher Education Institutions (HEI) are centres of innovation and technology transfer, and they play an important role in the socio-economic and sustainable development of any country, impacting in particular regional economic activities. Increasingly HEI are expected to participate as economic development partners with industry, investors, communities and governments. This has driven universities and governments to develop policies and programs that strengthen the relationships between HEI and economies, through supporting applied research,

entrepreneurship education, technology transfer, business incubators, industry collaborations, etc.

Each HEI has its own innovation ecosystem that impacts technological and business innovation and includes a full set of stakeholders, institutions, activities, resources and culture. It is important to understand the factors that influence the vitality of the HEI innovation ecosystems and identify its main weaknesses and constraints and in which way their innovation ecosystems can be developed to fulfill their role as regional economic drivers and at the same time support their other core missions of education and research.

### **C. Objectives**

The objective of this consultancy is to assess the innovation ecosystems of four Mozambique Higher Education Institutions (HEI) which are recipients of ICBP grants under the funds allocated to Rsif to support Research and Innovation Grant Projects and draw recommendations on the institutional improvements to strengthen the overall innovation ecosystem. Further the consultancy will provide support to the institutions to develop action plans to strengthen their intellectual property management practices to foster research & innovation excellence.

Specific objectives are:

1. Characterize each HEI innovation ecosystem in terms of:
  - a. Research and Innovation strategic policy documents and practices on technology transfer and Intellectual Property Management.
  - b. Innovation and entrepreneurship leadership and culture.
  - c. Key stakeholders' involvement, linkages and capabilities (HEI leaders, staff, students, industry, investors, communities, government) on innovation and entrepreneurship aspects
  - d. Innovation related infrastructure (technology transfer office, incubators etc).
  - e. Financial instruments for supporting R&D and innovation development.
2. Draw recommendations on how the innovation ecosystem can be improved (within each HEI and at national level) and in which ways the Rsif project/ other national programs could support the development of each HEI innovation ecosystem.
3. Provide recommendation and action plan to address the gaps identified on Intellectual Property Management and technology transfer practices for each institution.

### **D. Specific Tasks**

The specific tasks of the consultant are:

- a. Desk review of available background materials and virtual engagement with the HEIs.
- b. Develop a proposal of how assessment will be conducted, including approaches and methodologies that will be used and the plan of work.
- c. Carry on the assessment in the 4 HEI using participatory approaches and continuous engagement with stakeholders (internal and external).
- d. Analyse data and prepare the assessment reports (one for each HEI).
- e. Facilitate a workshop (with all 4 HEI) to present main assessment results and discuss plan of action/road map for each university (using participatory approach - each HEI will work independently on their road map).
- f. Prepare final report of the assessment including recommendations/proposals.

## E. Key deliverables

No	Delivery of Products and Services	No.of Days	% Payment	Timelines for deliverables
1	Develop Inception report.	2 days	10%	No later than 20 days after the contract award
2	Submit Draft Innovation Ecosystem assessment (One for each HEI)	20 days	50%	No later than 80 days after the contract award
3	Deliver workshop with all HEI to present main results and propose/discuss action plans to address the identified constraints.	3 days		No later than 90
4	Develop and submit Final report that includes main results of assessment of the 4 HEI as well as recommendations and action plan for the gaps	5 days	40%	No later than 120 days after the contract award
	Totals	30 days	100%	

## F. Consultant's Qualifications and Experience

The key qualifications include:

- a. **PhD** in a relevant field with at least 10 years of experience
- b. Strong research background in science and innovation
- c. Knowledge in management of innovation processes and intellectual property management
- d. Good understanding of the research and innovation environment in Higher Education Institutions
- e. Good understanding of the research and innovation environment in Mozambique and Africa in general
- f. Experience carrying out similar assignments would be mandatory.
- g. Excellent communication and writing skills.
- h. Proficiency in English and Portuguese and preferably based within Mozambique

## **G. Duration of the consultancy**

The estimated level of effort is **30 days** distributed over a total duration of **120 days (4 months)** from the time of award.

## **H. Application guidelines**

Interested applicants should submit the following documents to [rsiftenders@icipe.org](mailto:rsiftenders@icipe.org) by **16th August 2024 at 11.00 hrs East Africa time.**

- a) Technical proposal
  - i. Detailed cover letter expressing interest in this assignment, including full contact details (name, tel. e-mail), and physical address.
  - ii. Consultant's detailed CV including the following:
    - Evidence of undertaking similar consultancy work during the last 5 years attach at least three (3) for reference.
    - Clear understanding of the assignment/interpretation of the TORs and methodology to be used during the assignment.
    - Work plan clearly indicating the maximum time and duration required for the assignment.
    - Email and telephone contacts of at least three (3) relevant references.
    - Should be in English language.
- b) Financial proposal (submitted separately)

Provide a competitive and detailed cost breakdown (The fee should be quoted in US\$) to perform the assignment, including all the chargeable taxes.

## **I. Criteria for selection of the best offer**

The Consultant will be selected in accordance with the criteria laid down in "Selection Based on qualification and experience as stated above in paragraph F, as set out in the World Bank's Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers, 5th edition, September 2023, which can be found at the following website: [www.worldbank.org](http://www.worldbank.org)