CALL FOR APPLICATION (CONSULTANCY)

Pact Overview

Pact is an international nonprofit that works in nearly 40 countries building solutions for human development that are evidence-based, data-driven and owned by the communities we serve. Founded in 1971, Pact works with partners to build resilience, improve accountability, and strengthen knowledge and skills for sustainable social impact.

Project description

The USAID-Pact Sustainable Mine Site Validation (SMSV) Project is a four-year cooperative agreement awarded to Pact by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The project aims to reduce conflict that builds off the illegal mining and trade of 3TG (tin, tantalum, tungsten and gold) by implementing a new Mine Site Qualification and Validation (Q&V) model in North and South Kivu, Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) that:

- Is financially and technically sustainable;
- Meets all requirements of the OECD Due Diligence Guidance (DDG) for Responsible Supply Chains of Minerals from Conflict-Affected and High-Risk Areas (CAHRAs), the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) Regional Certification Mechanism (RCM), and DRC law;
- Allows for adequate flexibility on the ground to enable Q&V of new mine sites in a timely fashion and in accordance with local needs.

The SMSV project builds the capacity of DRC Mining Inspectors/Controllers and local multistakeholder committees (CLS) to conduct Q&V missions, adequately monitoring mining activities at all sites and addressing/mitigating identified risks at these sites. Independent monitoring is ensured through a whistleblowing and rapid-alert mechanism.

A particular emphasis will be placed on gender and child labor by:

- Raising awareness of local stakeholders and developing strategies to fight child labor.
- Increasing the representation of women in mining.

The involvement of the private sector in socially responsible investment is among the strategic objectives of the project. Realisation of this objective could enable several benefits in financing responsible supply chains. This aspect is reinforced by the fact that, to date, costs for the implementation of responsible sourcing practices, including due diligence, are almost entirely borne by the upstream sector.

Objective of the research

The objectives of the research are to:

- Research ways to seek buy-in from the socially responsible investment (SRI) sector to explore and incentivize models of creative investment.
o The research may include (but should not be limited to) the finance sector, where loan guarantee funds or endowment funds could be leveraged to help implement SMSV activities and support responsible sourcing practices overall.

o Other potential areas may be about motivating social incentives and entry points to increase engagement with local mining communities, support their access to market for the minerals they mine, and enhance their livelihoods.

o The research should be desk-based while also include, to the extent possible, interviews with local mining operators (primarily mining exporters) as well as international stakeholders.

- Map Socially Responsible Investors, both nationally in the DRC and internationally, who may be interested in engaging with responsible supply chains of 3TG minerals in the DRC in general, and with the SMSV project in particular.
- Develop a list of recommendations on how SRI investors could be leveraged and support SMSV project’s objectives and activities, or, to a broader extent, responsible sourcing of 3TG minerals in the DRC.

**Duration of the research**
The research is expected to take place over a period of two (2) months.

**Deliverables**
One final report presenting the results of the research and including:

- List of interviewed/consulted stakeholders
- Map of SRI investors
- List of recommendations and/or actions on how SRI investors could be leveraged and support SMSV project’s objectives and activities, or, to a broader extent, responsible sourcing of 3TG minerals in the DRC.

**Application**
Please submit your proposal including the following elements:

- Description of the proposed approach and methodology for this research (maximum two pages).
- High-level work plan to conduct the research (maximum one page).
- Contextual background about your understanding of upstream and downstream due diligence and responsible sourcing requirements and the associated issue of bearing the cost for due diligence (maximum one page).
- Background information about your organization/consultancy, including the qualifications to carry out this research. Information on past experience or similar work conducted in this field should be provided (maximum one page).
- Proposed team to conduct the research, with short biographies outlining specific expertise (maximum one page).
- Budget overview to conduct the research, including budget notes.

Send your application as well as any questions you may have electronically to mepippen@pactworld.org.

Applications can be submitted in English or French.
Deadline for submission: 4th March 2022.