



*Investing in People for Social & Economic Justice*

## **INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR CONDUCTING AN OPEN BUDGET SURVEY: ZIMBABWE**

The Zimbabwe Coalition on Debt and Development is seeking qualified consultant(s) to conduct an Open Budget Survey assignment.

### **TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE OPEN BUDGET SURVEY**

Assignment Title: <b>Open Budget Survey (OBS)</b>
Location of Assignment: <b>Zimbabwe</b> (The assignment will be conducted in 10 provinces and at the national level)
Duration of Assignment: <b>28 working days</b>
Reporting to: <b>Programmes Manager</b>

#### **1. Introduction and background**

Fiscal policies are enforced through the local and national budget, which also provides policy signals and priorities for a given year. Presently, there are few resources available to analyse the budgets and break them into palatable elements for uptake by citizens. The average citizen cannot understand the technical language used in the national budget. The Open Budget Survey will identify gaps in the budget cycle in Zimbabwe including citizen participation and gender responsiveness at local and national level. The survey report will help understand national and local authority budgeting processes and suggest ways of increasing the participation of citizens in the throughout the budget cycle. On the basis of the findings of the OBS, ZIMCODD shall further develop civic education tools promoting economic literacy at community level for better understanding of the budget making, budget allocation and budget implementation process tools to allow for increased citizen involvement and participation. Follow ups on OBS exercises will serve to measure progress on an annually basis, thereby providing a reflection on how civic education interventions are impacting budgeting process.

#### **2. Purpose**

ZIMCODD is commissioning the second annual national Open Budget Survey to assess the openness and inclusivity of the budget making, budget funding, budget expenditure, budget reporting and audit reporting processes at national and local government level on an annual basis. The survey also assesses the opportunities, government provides to civil society and individual citizens to engage in decisions about how public resources are raised and spent.

#### **3. Objectives:**

- To gather opinions and perceptions regards national and local government budget processes.
- To generate knowledge for promoting fiscal transparency and accountability;
- To promote needs-based budget processes that are inclusive and people centred.

- To contribute towards gender responsive budgeting through informed research.

#### **4. Roles and Responsibilities of the Consultant:**

- Present an inception report;
- Customize data collection tool (s) in liaison with ZIMCODD
- Collect data from agreed participating key respondents
- Data analysis and presentation in an acceptable standard
- Submit final open budget survey reports in two formats as indicated in the deliverables.

#### **5. Deliverable:**

- Comparative Open Budget Survey Report for 10 provincial capitals.
- National Open Budget Survey Report assessing openness in central government's budgeting process

#### **6. Work Schedule:**

The assignment is expected to run for 28 days from the date of awarding of contract.

#### **7. Payment:**

Payments will be done according to agreed terms and budget with the successful applicants.

#### **8. Roles of ZIMCODD:**

Review and editing of the 1<sup>st</sup> and final drafts of the Open Budget Survey

Provide quality control for the assignment

#### **9. Reporting:**

The consultant will report to the ZIMCODD Programmes Manager

#### **How to apply:**

Interested applicants with experience and expertise in research on public finance management, economic analysis, public policy analysis and local governance should respond to the call for expression of interest no later than 13 July 2020 by email to [zimcodd@zimcodd.co.zw](mailto:zimcodd@zimcodd.co.zw)

Applications should include:

1. Expression of Interest (EOI) demonstrating the aspiring consultant's understanding of the assignment, proposed methodological approach, proposed budget
2. Detailed CVs of the aspiring consultant and the research team demonstrating similar work profile
3. Three (3) contactable professional references.