



Rift Valley Institute
MAKING LOCAL KNOWLEDGE WORK



Terms of Reference (TOR)

Enhancing Public Political Participation Partner Somali Dialogue Platform

About RVI

The [Rift Valley Institute](#) (RVI) is an independent, non-profit organisation working in eastern and central Africa since 2001. The RVI is a research and educational organisation with a social mission: to create a better future for the peoples and communities of Eastern and Central Africa by advancing relevant knowledge of the region through collaborative research, education and training, public information and dialogues, and promoting culture and heritage. A UK-registered charity, the Institute has offices in Nairobi, Juba, Hargeysa and London.

RVI is a leader in practical social research, policy analysis, training and public information. Our field-based research emerges from and seeks to respond to ideas generated by the communities and institutions with which we work. RVI research projects, which involve collaborations between African and non-African researchers, include training and mentoring of young researchers to develop their skills and experience. RVI supports the right to information and the exchange of knowledge by publishing its research and disseminating it through public fora.

Our Vision, Mission and Values

Our Vision

Making local knowledge work for the benefit of the people of Eastern and Central Africa.

Our Mission

The Rift Valley Institute works to create a better future for the peoples and communities of Eastern and Central Africa by advancing relevant knowledge of the region through collaborative research, education and training, public information and dialogues, and promoting culture and heritage. The Institute bridges development practice and policy, elevating local voices, knowledge and action.

Our Values

The following values guide and underpin our work:

- *Respect:* We demonstrate respect for local knowledge and the partners and the communities we work with and those who work with us.

- *Independence: We are independent in our thought and action and produce research and deliver programmes free from external interests.*
- *Integrity: We work with transparency and honesty to ensure accurate and open access to information, and we are accountable for our work and to those we work with.*
- *Collaboration: We believe respectful partnerships are the basis for successful development and we are committed to long term, mutually beneficial collaboration between indigenous institutions, local researchers and international specialists.*
- *Excellence: We strive to produce original work and to sustain our strong reputation for research, public information and training.*

The Somali Dialogue Platform

1. Introduction

[The Somali Dialogue Platform](#) ('The Platform') is a policy dialogue and facilitation initiative, managed by the Rift Valley Institute (RVI), that responds to the need to support more collaborative, productive, and inclusive political processes that can transform Somalia's political settlement. The Platform seeks to create dialogue spaces genuinely trusted and led by Somalis, where they can confidently address past conflicts and grievances and collaborate to resolve fundamental differences in their governance ideas.

The Platform works on several priority areas related to the political settlement challenges such as democratization, fiscal federalism, and national security architecture. In addition, the Platform also works on cross-cutting issues such as encouraging women's political participation and public engagement in political processes.

The Platform is therefore looking to establish a partnership with an organization to improve public political participation across Somalia.

This TOR outlines the requirements for a partner to enhance public political participation within the Platform initiative.

2. Purpose

The purpose of this partnership is to enhance public political participation through various objectives:

Objective 1: Facilitate Meaningful Public Consultations

The selected partner will conceptualize and execute activities to promote inclusive and broad-based public consultations during the constitutional review process. These activities will enable diverse voices and perspectives to contribute to the review process through channels such as online platforms, media, and in-person forums with a focus on youth, women and marginalized groups.

Objective 2: Support OC/ICRIC/MOJAC in Political Engagement Strategies

The partner will collaborate with the Platform to assess and enhance political engagement strategies. Leveraging expertise in political outreach and public engagement, the partner will support the Platform's approaches to engage stakeholders in the constitutional review process.

Objective 3: Enhance Political Engagement of Women Leaders and Influencers

The partner will facilitate networking, learning, and exchange opportunities for women leaders, MPs, government officials, and other political influencers. This objective aims to empower these stakeholders to actively contribute their perspectives to the constitutional review process.

Objective 4: Promote Consensus-based and Incremental Approach

The partner will encourage diverse citizen groups to engage actively in political processes, fostering consensus-based and incremental progress in the constitutional review process.

3. Scope of work

The public participation partner will undertake two main components:

Component 1: Support for Political Outreach

Activities will include collaborative activity development, creating networking opportunities, and facilitating direct engagement between women leaders and political influencers.

Component 2: Support for Public Engagement

The partner will design a comprehensive public consultation process, promote inclusivity, and use multi-channel engagement to involve citizens in the constitutional review process.

4. Outputs and deliverables

The following deliverables are expected:

- Conduct 6 public consultation workshops and forums at national and Federal Member State (FMS) levels.
- Support public engagement between and among OC/ICRIC/MOJAC by holding events for different sectors of the society, as well as online forums via social media channels.
- Contribute to bottom-up policy development on national issues through the National Consultative Council (NCC) discourse pipeline.
- Develop and implement activities enabling women's influence and participation in national discussions, including the NCC and other decision-making platforms.
 - Share outcomes of public consultations and forums with OC/ICRIC/MOJAC.

5. Timeline for delivery

The work should be completed between September 2023 and June 30, 2024.

6. Budget

The anticipated budget for this work is US\$ 183,000

7. Application process and eligibility

Eligibility: Only organizations with Somali leadership and registered in Somalia are eligible to apply. Applicant organizations must have at least 3 years of verifiable experience in conducting public forums on public policy issues. The winning organization will be subject to a due diligence assessment carried out by RVI.

Application Process: Interested organizations should submit the following to the [this form](#) by 31th August 2023 (23:59 EAT) with:

- A concise (4-6 pages) technical proposal detailing the approach, methodology, work plan, team allocation, relevant work experience and any other comments on the TOR.
- A comprehensive budget in the attached format



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- CVs of project-assigned staff.
- Organizational profile, including key leadership positions overview.

Please submit any queries or feedback regarding the application to platform@riftvalley.net

8. Evaluation process and methods

The evaluation criteria will be a split between technical and commercial (price proposal) scores at the 70:30 ratio. Total obtainable Technical and Price points = 100.

Proposals submitted in response to this RFPS should include and will be evaluated against the following:

| Item | Evaluation Criteria | Max obtainable points |
|------------------------|---|-----------------------|
| Overall responsiveness | <p>Adequacy of the proposed methodology and work plan in response to the TOR, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A clear strategy• Approach and methodology in response to the scope of the work, including a detailed set of deliverables (analytical and dialogue outputs) and an expected workplan for completing the deliverables and any other comments on the TOR• Project Implementation work plan | 30 |

| Item | Evaluation Criteria | Max obtainable points |
|---|--|------------------------------|
| Institutional capacity | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Range and depth of organizational experience with similar projects • Technical capacity of agency: experience with similar assignments (including examples of previous work); • Client references to prove past performance references highlighting the firm's ability to perform and meet expectations - including contact details) • Sound organizational systems including policies and structures | 25 |
| Team composition | Key professional staff qualifications and competence for the assignment, experience with similar assignments (including examples of previous work); | 15 |
| Total Technical Score | | 70 |
| Financial Score | Demonstrated value for money in key inputs, alignment with the proposed activities and workplan, adherence to the budget ceiling | 30 |
| Summary of Technical and Financial Score | | 100 |

9. Conclusion

The public participation partner will play a pivotal role in enhancing public engagement in the constitutional review process within the Somali Dialogue Platform. Through effective execution of activities and deliverables, the partner will contribute to fostering collaborative and inclusive dialogue spaces that empower Somali citizens to participate actively in shaping the political settlement through a consensus-based and incremental constitutional review process.