



THE MONITORING OF RECOVERED ASSETS THROUGH TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY (MANTRA) PROJECT

CONSULTANCY FOR SCOPING STUDY – CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

BACKGROUND TO MANTRA PROJECT

Corruption is a major problem in Nigeria and is largely responsible for widespread poverty and underdevelopment. According to the UN and the AU, around \$148 billion is stolen from Africa annually by politically exposed persons, multinational corporations, the business elite and civil servants with complicity of banking and property industries in Europe, North America and elsewhere. Moderate estimates indicate that Nigeria lost about \$40 billion as illicit financial flows between 2001 and 2010 alone.¹ Transparency International (TI), recently ranked Nigeria 148th out of 180 countries ranked in its 2017 Corruption Perception Index (CPI). The country, according to the CPI, scored 28 out of 100, a figure lower than the average in the Sub-Saharan region²

The Federal Government of Nigeria, working with the international community and has shown considerable commitments and determination to trace, track and repatriate looted assets to countries of origin to finance development. Progress has been made in this regard. The Switzerland Government, as per the MoU signed by the Nigeria Government with the Swiss bank and the World Bank, has returned \$321 million to Nigeria as part of the over \$4 billion stolen by late dictator, General Sani Abacha. The UK has equally returned \$73 million of the Malabu oil deal and more of such loot have been returned and others are still being negotiated.

ANE EJ is currently implementing the Monitoring of recovered Assets in Nigeria through Transparency and Accountability (MANTRA) project which is being supported by the British Department for International Department (DFID) as part of its wider Anti-Corruption in Nigeria (ACORN) Programme.

The MANTRA project is specifically designed to monitor the utilisation of recovered assets in Nigeria and will concentrate specifically on monitoring the use of the recently returned

¹ Illicit Financial Flows, Report of the High-Level Panel on Illicit Financial Flows from Africa, Commissioned by the Africa Union/ECW Conference of Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development (2015). https://www.uneca.org/sites/default/files/PublicationFiles/iff_main_report_26feb_en.pdf.

² https://www.transparency.org/news/feature/corruption_perceptions_index_2017.

\$322.5million Abacha loot for social welfare programmes by the Federal Government. At a broader level, MANTRA will also advocate for an improvement of the policy, legislative and institutional framework for the recovery and management of recovered loot in Nigeria and accordingly strengthen the capacity of CSOs to monitor the use of recovered assets.

Consequently, ANEEJ seeks the services of a consultant to undertake a Scoping Study that would establish baseline data/information which would be used to monitor progress and results of the project.

OBJECTIVES OF SCOPING STUDY

The broad objectives of the scoping study are to establish the current legal, institutional and factual situation of the asset recovery and management regime in Nigeria and to determine the baseline for the MANTRA project.

The study is therefore expected to deal with issues and questions in the following areas:

- A. Factual situation of recovered assets in Nigeria
- B. Extant legal, institutional and policy framework for the recovery and management of recovered assets in Nigeria
- C. Utilisation and monitoring of recovered assets in Nigeria
- D. Broader developmental and governance outcomes and context of the MANTRA project.

DURATION

The study is to be undertaken and report writing concluded within one calendar month from the date of contract with ANEEJ.

REMUNERATION

Adequate remuneration will be provided by ANEEJ for the conduct of the study at a competitive rate in accordance with best standards in the sector

SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE REQUIRED

- Proven knowledge and application of rigorous research methods
- Understanding of the social investment programmes and policies, and the overall poverty reduction strategies of the Federal Government
- In-depth knowledge of the anticorruption regime in Nigeria
- Proven experience of undertaking quality academic work, demonstrated by publications in international journals and sources
- Particular knowledge and understanding of the global regime on asset recovery and management, with particular reference to Nigeria is desirable

- Experience of working with organisations or projects in the development sector is desirable.

HOW TO APPLY

Interested and qualified persons should submit an application to info@aneej.org, with the following documents:

- Detailed curriculum vitae
- Sample research publication, preferable an article in an international journal or a quality policy brief
- Cover letter

Enquiries on the consultancy can also be sent to info@aneej.org or by calling 08187674339

DEADLINE

The deadline for applications is 14th June, 2018.