



TERMS OF REFERENCE

CONSULTANT TO DEVELOP A TECHNICAL GUIDE ON INCLUSIVE EDUCATION

INTROUDCTION

Disability Rights Advocacy Center (DRAC) is a non-profit organization that works to protect the rights of Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) and promote their inclusion in the Development Agenda. A pioneer in the field of disability programming in Nigeria, DRAC uses an array of innovative and creative tools and methods to engage with duty bearers and raise public awareness on disability rights with a special focus on Women and Girls with Disabilities (WGWDs) in Nigeria.

BACKGROUND

UNICEF estimates that 95% of children with disabilities in the third world countries are out of school with 90% of them at risk of never gaining access to basic education in their lifetime. Nigeria alone has over 10 million out of school children with children with up to half of that number being children with disabilities.

The key drivers of this trend are:

1. Exclusive and inaccessible structure and system of primary and post primary schools in Nigeria
2. Continuous reliance on the poorly managed, inadequately staffed, poorly equipped and outdated special schools
3. Low public awareness on inclusive education
4. Lack of institutional and human capacities required to implement inclusive education
5. Lack of implementation of laws and policies on inclusive education

The *Convention on the Rights of the Child* stipulates that every child has a right to quality and affordable education regardless of whether they have a disability or not. A report by UNESCO noted that even those children with disabilities currently in school are at risk of being excluded within the classroom environment and subsequently dropping out.

Nigeria signed and ratified the *UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities* (CRPD) which enshrines the rights and privileges of persons with disabilities globally. Article 24 of the CRPD provides that all schools must be inclusive of, and accessible to all children including those with disabilities. Nigeria is also a signatory to the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Goal 4 of which targets that by 2030, all school-age children including those with disabilities must have access to qualitative, functional and effective basic education.



Additionally, the National Policy on Inclusive Education provides that education must be inclusive and that all children including those with disabilities have the right to qualitative, functional and effective basic education. *The Universal Basic Education Act of 2004* provides that basic education is free and compulsory for all school-age children. Lastly the *Discrimination Against Persons with Disabilities Prohibition Act (2018)* also emphasizes free and inclusive education for persons with disabilities in. Even with all these legal provisions, majority of children with disabilities remain excluded from the Nigerian education system.

In view of this, DRAC under her Education for All (E4A) Project supported by The Leprosy Mission Nigeria is seeking a consultant to develop a Technical Guide on Inclusive Education. This technical guide will provide direction to stakeholders for improving access to inclusive and quality education for children with disabilities.

PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

The main purpose of this assignment is to develop, finalize and submit a technical guide on inclusive Education in Nigeria.

The specific objectives include:

- Conduct background research that will provide information on available opportunities and enabling environment for making inclusive education accessible to children with disabilities.
- To develop a comprehensive document that provides guidance and strategic direction for education stakeholders for practical implementation of the inclusive education policy to ensure access to quality and comprehensive inclusive education in Nigeria.

METHODOLOGY AND SCOPE OF WORK

The assignment will be implemented under the overall guidance of the Executive Director, DRAC. There will be review meetings to ensure that the content of the technical guide captures DRAC needs and expectations for the document.

The tasks / deliverables of the Consultant may include, without limitation,

1. Conduct research
2. Facilitate technical meetings to harvest information to feed into document
3. Develop the technical guide
4. Facilitate validation meeting of the technical guide

This assignment is expected to be carried out for a period of 6 weeks and is expected to commence on the May 17, 2023.



SKILLS / ACADEMIC QUALIFICATION / EXPERIENCE

- Master's degree in an area of social development, Development communication or equivalent.
- At least 5 years of experience in social services/social policy, developing technical documents with a focus on inclusive education.
- Knowledge of disability inclusion
- Excellent writing skills
- Experience in facilitating trainings and technical meetings
- Evidence of having undertaken similar assignments
- Experience in research and programming-related work

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Expressions of interest should contain the following information:

Required*

- a) Cover Letter, explaining why the applicant considers him/herself the most suitable for work and CV including information about experience in similar assignment and contact details of referees as one document
- b) A detailed workplan with timelines for the achievement of each deliverable outlined in the scope of work.
- c) Financial proposal: The financial proposal shall specify a total lump sum amount, linked to deliverables and based on no. of days to be used for the assignment.

Applicants shall submit the following documents to: drac.nigeria@gmail.com not later than May 10, 2023.

*Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.