

Terms of Reference (TOR)

Project	B832- SheTrades AfCFTA
Expected Start Date	Approximately 7 working days from 17 March to 23 April 2021
Assignment Type	International Consultant
Title of Assignment	SheTrades: Empowering Women in the AfCFTA - E-commerce expert
Section/Division	SIVC/DEI
Place of Work	Home-based
Contract Type	Delivery-based contract

Background

The International Trade Centre (ITC) is the joint agency of the United Nations and World Trade Organization based in Geneva. ITC's mission is to enable small business export success in developing and transition-economy countries, by providing, with partners, sustainable and inclusive development solutions to the private sector, trade support institutions (TSIs) and policymakers.

The International Trade Centre launched the SheTrades initiative to create an ecosystem of integrated solutions that empower women economically through greater integration in trade and investment.

The Goal: Connect 3 million women to market by 2021.

A Plan: To work with partners including governments, private sector, international organizations, and others to expand opportunities for women entrepreneurs by acting on 7 pillars to catalyze trade.

About the Empowering Women in the AfCFTA project:

The SheTrades: Empowering Women in the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) project aims to increase economic growth and job creation in Africa by enhancing the participation of women-owned businesses in international trade. The project helps to design a more inclusive AfCFTA by providing women's business associations and policy-makers with capacity-building and advocacy support, and bringing them together for policy dialogues.

In doing so, the project provides technical and policy knowledge on how regional markets and the AfCFTA can concretely open economic opportunities for women; increase engagement of women representative associations in the AfCFTA processes; and maintain the political momentum for delivering on the gender equality goal enshrined in the AfCFTA.

The consultant will provide technical inputs for discussions on women's participation in e-commerce opportunities under the AfCFTA and develop a policy brief on this topic as a resource for women's business associations.

Description of Duties/Responsibilities

The Consultant will work for ITC's Empowering Women to Trade Programme, in the context of the SheTrades: Empowering Women in the AfCFTA project, under the direct supervision of the SheTrades Programme Management Officer and Policy Lead and in collaboration with the SheTrades Associate Economic Affairs Officer, Policy.

The consultant is expected to perform the following duties:

- Develop a policy brief (approx. 6-8 pages in word document format) on e-commerce opportunities for women under the AfCFTA, according to the template provided by ITC;
- Participate in a virtual workshop session dedicated to this topic by presenting the content of the brief, facilitating the discussion with women's business associations, and providing technical inputs to support women's business associations in developing recommendations on priorities related to e-commerce;
- Revise the policy brief to incorporate feedback from the workshop;

The contractor is obliged to provide full access to ITC external and internal auditors to documents and information. In addition, the contractor shall comply with any audit undertaken in line with the financial regulations and rules of the United Nations.

Expected Outputs

Output 1 by 7 April 2021:

- Policy brief developed and ITC feedback incorporated

Output 2 by 20 April 2021:

- Virtual Workshop # 1 participation completed

Output 3 by 27 April 2021:

- Policy brief revised based on workshop and finalized with ITC team

Travel

- No travel required.

Skills

- Strong research (analysis & synthesis) skills
- Excellent presentation and verbal communications skills
- Strong written communication skills
- Ability to work reliably and independently with minimum supervision.

Education

- Advance degree (or equivalent) in Economics, Development, Business, International Relations, Economic Development or related field;
- Extensive relevant experience may be accepted in lieu of the university degree.

Experience

- At least ten years of professional experience in gender, international trade, sustainable development or related field;
- Demonstrated experience in e-commerce and trade topics;
- Demonstrated experience in delivering training programmes.

Languages

Fluency in English, both spoken and written, required; knowledge of other UN languages an asset.