


AECID Pluriannual Project
Sustainable Provision of Electricity through Renewable Energy in Palawan
(Philippines)

AECID Project code: 2023/SPE/0000400084

Integral gender and social inclusion
approach alignment consultancy


Terms of Reference



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BACKGROUND FOR TERMS OF REFERENCE (ToR)

acciona.org Foundation Philippines Inc., also known as acciona.org Philippines, is a non-profit foundation established in the Philippines in 2022. Its main objective is to provide access to modern, clean, and safe forms of energy to low-income individuals in rural communities in the Philippines, in areas where there is no expectation of electric service through grid access in the short term. For this purpose, acciona.org Philippines offers access to basic electricity services through third-generation solar home systems (3GSHS) in the framework of the Light at Home program.

In collaboration with the Spanish Agency of International Development Cooperation (AECID), since 2023, acciona.org Philippines has carried out the development of a project to benefit nearly 1,500 families in Palawan.

acciona.org Philippines is actively seeking a specialized consultancy in gender and social inclusion approach, as part of its organizational commitment to achieve the highest ethical standards and social responsibility.

The objective is to align organizational practices with the foundational principles of gender equality and social inclusion. The consultancy will play a crucial role in guiding the organization toward the integration of gender approach, ensuring compliance with established norms, and fostering equitable and inclusive practices.

The organization anticipates collaborating with professionals who share the dedication to these principles and are willing to contribute to foster the implementation of the highest ethical principles associated to acciona.org Philippines actions.

1. Objective of the consultancy

acciona.org Philippines recognizes the significance of gender equality in the realization of a fair and inclusive society and is in need of a consultant to provide guidance on the integration of a gender and social inclusion approach in its projects. This initiative seeks to ensure that organizational practices are associated with the principles of fairness, inclusivity, and adherence to the highest global gender equality standards.

The primary objective of the consultant is to conduct a comprehensive evaluation of project activities and to give recommendations on practical solutions for better alignment to the UN Gender Equality Strategy 2022-2025, published by United Nations in 2022. Specifically, the consultant will be required to:

- Conduct an assessment of acciona.org Philippines' projects and its alignment to existing international and local frameworks and legislation on gender equality and social inclusion.
- Carry out stakeholder surveys, interviews, focus group discussions, and/or field visits to obtain feedback on gender responsiveness of project design and activities, challenges to

adopting inclusive approaches in project implementation, and project impacts in terms of gender equality and women empowerment.

- Create a map of areas considered unsafe for women and girls in target communities and determine appropriateness of basic electricity solutions to address security issues.
- Organize sensitization workshops or learning sessions to strengthen awareness and understanding of stakeholders on gender and development issues.
- Recommend actions to improve gender mainstreaming in project design, implementation, and reporting.
- Provide other inputs related to gender and social inclusion as required.

2. Deliverables

DELIVERABLE		DESCRIPTION	TIME INPUT
1.	Gender Equality and Social Inclusion Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Definition of the conceptual and methodological framework to assess the alignment of acciona.org Philippines projects to gender equality and social inclusion principles, as well as project impacts on gender equality: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Thorough review of existing literature on gender equality and social inclusion ○ Clear and detailed development of the conceptual and methodological framework that will guide the execution of fieldwork • Design of surveys and methodology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Meticulous development of surveys and sampling approaches, ensuring the effective capture of relevant data to gender equality and social inclusion analysis ○ Description of the methodology used for selection of participants in field surveys. ○ Implementation of survey using structured or semi-structured methodologies to obtain qualitative and quantitative data • Interviews with users, entrepreneurs, and other stakeholders to gather individual perspectives and experiences related to acciona.org Philippines projects • Detailed results with gender equality and social inclusion analysis <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Presentation and narrative report gathering and highlighting all relevant findings and conclusions. ○ Identification of gaps and proposals to enhance the good practices and to reduce the negative impacts 	6 weeks

DELIVERABLE		DESCRIPTION	TIME INPUT
2.	Map of Areas Considered Unsafe for Women and Girls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research and Data Collection <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Identify relevant data sources, such as police reports, security surveys, community testimonials, etc. ○ Collect specific data on gender-based violence incidents, assaults, harassment, poor lighting, police presence, among others. • Data Analysis <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Evaluate and categorize collected data to identify patterns and areas of concern. ○ Use statistical and visualization tools to understand the prevalence of security or lack of security measures in different locations. • Community Consultation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Organize meetings with the community to obtain additional information and validate the perception of vulnerability. ○ Include women and girls in these consultations to ensure accurate representation of their experiences. • Map Design <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Create a clear and easily understandable design for the map, highlighting areas of major concern. ○ Include legends and descriptions explaining the criteria used to classify areas as unsafe. • Identification of Priorities and Needs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Critical evaluation of data to accurately identify specific priorities and needs of women and girls related to acciona.org Philippines projects • Recommendations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Concrete and evidence-based proposals to address identified needs, offering practical and strategic solutions 	4 weeks

DELIVERABLE		DESCRIPTION	TIME INPUT
3.	Sensitization Workshop, Plan, and Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planning and execution of at least two (2) sensitization sessions for acciona.org Philippines staff and stakeholders to ensure a deeper understanding of the importance of gender equality and social inclusion and their relationship to project activities. Comprehensive development and delivery of workshop content, including presentations, visual materials, educational resources, learning case studies, and interactive activities. Complete workshop report that details the record of participants, provided content, performance indicators, and measurement of impact and results against objectives 	3 weeks
4.	Final Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detailed presentation of identified needs and priorities through the diagnosis Concrete and viable proposals to address identified needs, both at a practical and strategic level Development of specific activities, establishment of baselines, and definition of indicators to measure progress on gender issues 	3 weeks
Total			16 weeks


The deliverables must pass a formal process of acceptance by acciona.org Philippines to be qualified officially as delivered or completed. This determination will affect the payment periods associated with the consultancy. For the deliverables to be "accepted", the consultant is first required to submit a preliminary or draft version of the deliverable to acciona.org Philippines.

acciona.org Philippines will then conduct a thorough analysis of the draft version. Following this evaluation, a virtual meeting will be scheduled to facilitate the exchange of comments between the parties involved. Within a timeframe not exceeding 10 days, a final version of the deliverable is expected to be submitted for final acceptance.

Considering the period for review and revision of drafts, the total duration of the consultancy is approximately 20 weeks or 5 months.

3. Qualifications of Consultant or Consultancy Team

- With at least three (3) years' experience in community development and gender analysis and mainstreaming; experience in international development cooperation projects is a plus.
- With university degree relevant to the field
- With demonstrated understanding of issues related to access to electricity and water.
- Able to produce high quality work with minimal supervision.
- Proficiency in English and Filipino; demonstrated written and verbal communication skills.

 acciona.org <small>The Energy & Water Foundation</small>	acciona.org Philippines		
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- Excellent interpersonal skills and able to work well in a multicultural environment.
- Willing and able to travel.
- Familiarity with project areas in Palawan is preferred.

4. Schedule

Contract phases	End date
ToR publication by acciona.org Philippines	16 July 2024
Consultation and queries on the TOR	24 July 2024
Response by acciona.org Philippines to consultations and queries	31 July 2024
Submission of technical and financial proposals	7 August 2024
Expected date for negotiation and selection	14 August 2024
Expected date for commencement of the services	22 August 2024

acciona.org Philippines reserves the right to specify more concrete delivery dates during the consultancy negotiation and selection process, and these dates shall be equally binding as the original Terms of Reference (ToR), especially regarding the agreed deliverables.


This flexibility is implemented with the aim of ensuring a mutual and realistic understanding of the specific delivery timelines for each identified deliverable in the project. The goal is to adapt delivery dates precisely to the needs and circumstances, ensuring the effectiveness and success of the project.

5. Submission of Proposals

Interested parties should submit a detailed proposal with the following information:

- Company profile (and/or Curriculum Vitae of individual consultant or consultant team) that shows evidence of competency to carry out the engagement such as successful completion of similar work.
- Technical proposal containing a brief description of the approach, methodology, and work plan reflecting the scope of works and the deliverables.
- Financial proposal with key milestones for payments
 - A maximum of 20% of the quoted contract price may be requested as advance payment for mobilization funds, if required by the consultant.
 - 40% of the price shall be paid upon acceptance by acciona.org Philippines of Deliverables 1 and 2. The remaining 40% shall be paid upon acceptance by acciona.org Philippines of Deliverables 3 and 4. Depending on the % of advance payment requested, the applicable percentages for deliverables should be adjusted accordingly.
 - The financial proposal should indicate an all-inclusive fee in Philippine pesos covering all expenses related to the performance of services under the contract such as remuneration, travel, insurance, taxes, among others.
 - Payments shall be done via bank transfer.

The contact email for all matters related with the present tender is: fundacion@acciona.org cc adminph@acciona.org

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All consultations, queries, and proposals should be submitted in English to the above addresses on or before the deadlines indicated in Section 4. Responses to interested parties shall be sent by the same means.

All proposals submitted after the indicated date will be rejected.

6. Proposal Evaluation Criteria

acciona.org Philippines shall evaluate the technical and financial proposals as follows:

Criteria	Points
General experience and competence of the consultant in the field covered by the ToR	40
Adequacy of the proposed approach, methodology, and work plan	30
Price	30
Total	100

The consultant should score a minimum of 70 points for its proposal to be selected.

7. Responsibility of Consultant

Each consultant is responsible for the integrity of its proposal and performance. Non-compliance with the outlined stipulations may result in direct or indirect damages to acciona.org Philippines potentially causing reputational or financial losses and impeding the proper development of the AECID Pluriannual project. Violation of specified conditions may lead to legal action and contract termination. Upholding integrity and strict adherence to conditions are crucial for project success and transparency.

8. Cancellation of the Contract

acciona.org Philippines may temporarily or permanently cancel the selection process at any time by notifying each consultant by email.

9. Other Documentation

The winning consultant shall submit the following:

- Accomplished ACCIONA supplier information sheet
- Certificate of registration from the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) 2303
- Bank certificate showing the bank account name (in the name of the company or for sole proprietorships, in the name of business owner), number, and branch.
- BIR-registered Official Receipts/Invoices