



## COMPARATIVE STUDY ON YOUTH PARTICIPATION IN POLITICAL PROCESSES IN KENYA, MALAWI, AND ZIMBABWE.

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### 1. BACKGROUND

Youth Alive! Kenya (Y.A.K - Kenya), Youth Empowerment and Transformation Trust (Y.E.T.T-Zimbabwe), and Centre for Youth Empowerment and Civic Education (C.Y.E.C.E- Malawi) have been in partnership since 2019 implementing the “*Youth Participate*” project that aims to strengthen and build the capacity of the three partner organizations and their Member Organizations in promoting meaningful youth engagement and participation in development processes. The project fosters South-to-South learning, sharing of ideas, and knowledge transfer from one Country/partner to another.

#### **C.Y.E.C.E (Centre for Youth Empowerment and Civic Education)**

Centre for Youth Empowerment and Civic Education (CYECE) is a Non-Governmental and not-for-profit organization established in March 1997. It was formed to promote the rights of children and young people in Malawi by addressing the socio-economic issues affecting their growth, meaningful participation and development. CYECE’s development goal calls for Scaling up of interventions and efforts that promote children’s rights, empower young people and promote their Sexual and Reproductive Health and wellbeing in Malawi. CYECE head office is in Lilongwe and it has programmes in 17 districts of Malawi namely, Lilongwe, Kasungu, Salima, Mchinji, Dedza and Dowa in the central region, Mangochi, Chiradzulu, Machinga, Balaka, Zomba, Thyolo, Blantyre and Chikwawa in the southern Region and Karonga, Nkhata Bay, Mzimba in the northern region

#### **Y.E.T.T (Youth Empowerment and Transformation Trust)**

The Youth Empowerment and Transformation Trust (YETT) works towards strengthening youth engagement in policy advocacy in order to create an environment conducive to youth participation in national discourse and ensure youth development through building the capacity of youth and youth organizations to deliver for national development through training, technical and financial support in Zimbabwe. YETT’s vision is a just, inclusive and prosperous society where young people fully participate and lead in sustainable development. YETT believes in and commits to harnessing the transformative potential of young people and youth focused organisations in ensuring a more equitable future. In existence since 2004, YETT’s key objectives are tied to its major program activities, which can be summarised as;

- To build the capacity of youth and youth organisations to deliver for sustainable development
- Engage in policy advocacy in order to create an environment conducive to youth



- Strategic-level activities such as research, assessments/analysis, strategy development for institutions working on citizen engagement in the economy and political life

In order to attain these objectives, YETT works with a network of youth organisations that have the common goal of enhancing youth participation in development. Currently, the YETT membership stands at 43 organisations working in all 10 provinces of Zimbabwe.

### **Y.A.K (Youth Alive! Kenya)**

Youth Alive! Kenya (YAK) is an independent national youth-led, youth-serving non-governmental organization committed to the empowerment of young people in Kenya to take active responsibility for their lives to shape their destiny. Founded in late 1998 and registered as a community-based organization in 1999 and then a national NGO in December 2003, Youth Alive! Kenya envisions a society where young people are empowered to realize their full potential and our mission is to promote the wellbeing and inclusion of young people in development through partnerships, capacity building, and advocacy. YAK interventions target mainly the youth with an emphasis on women and Person Living with Disabilities (PLWDs). To achieve impact at scale, YAK has built 12 County networks<sup>1</sup> referred to as “Working Groups” which consist of ninety-six (96) Community and Youth-Based Organizations (commonly referred to as Member Organizations - MOs) in the 12 counties. The aim of this network is to influence youth participation in development and decision making processes and hold county governments accountable for quality service delivery as well as improve their livelihoods. We also seek to strengthen youth participation in the development agenda in line with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) targets at County, National, Regional and Global levels.

## **INTRODUCTION**

The partnership (Y.A.K, Y.E.T.T, and C.Y.E.C.E) has received financial support from NOREC (Norwegian Agency for Exchange Corporation) for implementation of the 2021 “*Youth Participate*” project. The Norwegian Agency for Exchange Cooperation (Norec) is an administrative governmental body that facilitates the exchange of people between companies and organisations in Norway and countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America. Norec is resourced by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Norec supports activities that aim to promote mutual learning and partnerships in order to develop active citizens and strengthen organisations to influence sustainable development in their communities.

The Partnership seeks the services of consultants with appropriate knowledge, skills, experience, and competency to undertake a comparative study on youth participation in political processes in Kenya, Zimbabwe and Malawi.

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<sup>1</sup> Kisumu, Nairobi, Kirinyaga, Murang’a, Kiambu, Machakos, Kajiado, Kakamega, Siaya, Uasin Gishu, West Pokot and Mombasa.



The Contract will be awarded on the basis of the strength/quality and most economically advantageous proposal according to a best price-quality ratio whereby the weighting for price is 25% and for quality 75%. As to price, the lowest bid gets 25 points. The other bids get 25 points reduced with the same percentage as the offered price exceeds the lowest bid, i.e. an offer that is 50% more expensive than the lowest bid gets 12.5 points. Please note that the maximum budget for this assignment is **USD 3,600** (i.e. USD 1,200 per consultant in each country).

## **2. The objective of this consultancy.**

The purpose of this consultancy is to conduct and publish a comparative study on the status of youth participation in political processes in the three countries to inform good practices from the respective countries for cross learning as well as inform proper contextualization of interventions.

## **3. Specific Objectives**

The following are therefore the specific objectives of this consultancy:

- a) To assess the level of youth participation in electoral processes, constitution amendments, governance, development and leadership in Kenya, Malawi, and Zimbabwe.
- b) To assess awareness levels among the youth in Kenya, Malawi, and Zimbabwe on the existing citizen participation structures, their constitutional rights and responsibilities in political processes.

## **4. Roles and Responsibilities**

- a) Each Partner organization (YETT, YAK and CYECE) will independently engage a consultant in the respective country in line with the partner organizations terms of engagement.
- b) Respective partner project co-ordinators will conduct a briefing meeting with the country consultant to clarify objectives and expectations, receive inputs, and ensure clear understanding of the Terms of Reference.
- c) The consultants will develop a comprehensive study methodology and data collection tools that would provide credible information on youth participation in the 3 countries. This research will involve use of mostly secondary data sources, and where possible, also include information gathered from primary data sources. Secondary source of data that will aid this research will include desk research from various sources among which involve literature review comprising of an initial desk review of all written material on the subject and data from the relevant state and non-state agencies and independent verified research reports, surveys and publications for various years and any other information relevant to this research.

### **It is expected that the three consultants will work together to:**

1. Review relevant youth policies in the three countries to determine, differences, similarities, challenges, and opportunities for youth participation.
2. Develop a working plan among themselves to prepare and submit a consolidated final draft report of the study containing findings and recommendations for review and validation by the partnership.



3. Develop and submit two hard copies and one soft copy of the final **JOINT** study report to their respective partner organizations.

## 5. Profile of consultants

- a) Education qualification: A minimum of Master's Degree in Social Sciences, law, anthropology and other related postgraduate degrees or commensurate experience in lieu of an advanced degree.
- b) Experience: Five years in research, community development with specific emphasis on governance matters. Proven experience working on youth matters and or participation in governance processes on a regional scale will be an added advantage.
- c) Demonstrated abilities with data collection and analysis.
- d) Excellent written English and report writing experience.
- e) Strong communication and public presentation skills.

## 6. Management of the consultancy

The management of this consultancy will be under the respective partner organizations. Each consultant will be reporting to the respective Partner Organization's Program Officer responsible for the project implementation.

## 7. Application process

Application will be submitted electronically not later than **23<sup>rd</sup> May 2021** to [hr@youthalivekenya.org](mailto:hr@youthalivekenya.org) cc [info@youthalivekenya.org](mailto:info@youthalivekenya.org) outlining the following;

1. Concept note outlining understanding of the task, methodology, work plan/timelines.
2. Financial proposal in USD
3. Proof and confirmation of availability during the research period
4. Current CV demonstrating experience in similar tasks
5. Proof of having done a similar assignments (attach reports),links to previous writings and published materials
6. List of at least 3 referees with contacts.

**It is expected that the research will be conducted during the month of June and the time duration of the study will be discussed with the selected consultant(s) as indicated in the proposed work plans.**