



PEACE, PROSPERITY AND
REGIONAL INTEGRATION

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AUTHORITY ON DEVELOPMENT (IGAD)

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

TERMS OF REFERENCE

PROJECT MONITORING AND EVALUATION OFFICER EASTERN AFRICA REGIONAL DIGITAL INTEGRATION PROJECT (P176181)

Position	Project Monitoring, Evaluation Officer
Reference	EARDIP - MEO
Project	Eastern Africa Regional Digital Integration Project (P176181)
Reporting to	Project Coordinator
Duty Station	Djibouti

1. BACKGROUND

Regional integration across Africa

Regional integration efforts are gaining momentum at the continental and sub-regional levels and include initiatives to support digital market development and harmonization. The African Union (AU) is spearheading several regional initiatives that will guide the continent's development path, which recognizes the importance of digital development. The most comprehensive of these efforts is the signing of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) in 2018 by 54 African countries which, among its objectives, envisages the adoption of continent-wide rules on e-commerce. In addition to the AU, regional economic communities (RECs) are also playing a prominent role in the coordination of these efforts, including the harmonization of rules for digital businesses, and the implementation of digital frameworks at the sub regional level, often enabling initiatives that can later be expanded to a greater membership.

Regional integration concerning digital development

A more coordinated and more comprehensive approach to regional digital development and integration is needed to strengthen and accelerate these continental initiatives. With the multiple digital integration initiatives affecting Eastern Africa, further coordination and knowledge sharing among the RECs and member states is needed to ensure efficiency and meet key milestones under the African Union Digital Transformation Initiative. As the digital market builds from the intersection of connectivity, data, and online services, the

regional integration of digital markets requires broad engagement across multiple policy areas. Through such approaches, countries in Eastern Africa will be able to accelerate regional digital integration efforts in a more efficient and effective manner and thus reap the benefits of the growing digital market, diversify their economies, and increase their resilience against global and regional shocks and crises.

Leveraging RECs as part of the Eastern Africa Regional Integration Project (EARDIP)

As part of the World Bank Eastern Africa Regional Digital Integration Project (EARDIP, or “the Project”), two RECs will be engaged to serve as conduits of the regional digital integration agenda, namely the Eastern African Community (EAC) and the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD,). The rationale for engaging both EAC and IGAD rests on their strategic significance in furthering digital integration, their expansive geographic coverage in Eastern Africa and the HoA and overlapping mandates. Recognizing the key roles RECs already play as facilitators of regional integration, such as in trade, health, and food security, and the need for more coordination on digital integration, the two RECs are well positioned to play a central role in the implementation of EARDIP. Where the EAC is relatively more advanced (with established governance, regulatory frameworks, and capacity), the project will leverage knowledge transfer and exchange with IGAD. This will be facilitated through mechanisms furthering collaboration between the RECs—built into the project’s implementation arrangements. For instance, through forming a Project Coordination Committee (PCC) and convening joint technical discussions to support coordination of similar activities and their outputs, policies, regulations, and standards. The members of the EAC and IGAD include the countries covered under the regional series of projects (SOP) as part of EARDIP. For instance, under SOP-I, South Sudan is a member of both the EAC and IGAD; and Somalia, which is a member of IGAD, has recently applied for membership in the EAC.

IGAD has also been engaging in the digital sector in particular. It has undertaken various digital initiatives such as leveraging digital platforms for cross-border livestock marketing and the cross-border digitization of health records as part of its regional COVID-19 response program. However, IGAD requires significant capacity building to enhance its role in regional digital integration across its member states. Existing structures between IGAD and the EAC already provide a bridge for knowledge sharing and capacity building across the two sub-regions, reinforced by their overlapping member states.

The primary project beneficiaries will be decision makers, civil servants and ICT-related professionals of regional and national institutions involved in the planning, development and management of digitalization and development of the ICT sector in the IGAD region through strengthened capacity, increased availability of relevant information, improved policies and strengthened regional collaboration. The project will also benefit scientists and experts of universities, professional institutions and companies in the region that work on services, applications, and devices at national, and regional levels and indirectly also the inhabitants of the IGAD region that will benefit from more improved access to ICT services and uses and creation of new sources of jobs and incomes and hence driving competitiveness, economic growth and social development.

2. PROJECT DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES (PDO)

The regional Series of Projects (SOP) development objective is to promote the expansion of an integrated digital market across Eastern Africa by increasing cross-border broadband connectivity, data flows and digital trade in the region. The Phase I development objective of the SOP is to advance digital market integration in the Eastern Africa region by increasing affordable access to regional broadband connectivity and strengthening the enabling environment for cross-border digital services.

PDO Indicators

Achievement of the PDO will be measured by the following results indicators:

- a) Increasing affordable access to regional broadband connectivity
 - Volume of international data traffic (Used international bandwidth in Gbit/s/per capita) (number)
 - Broadband penetration rate (active broadband subscriptions per 100 inhabitants) (mobile and fixed) (number)
 - Monthly price for 1 GB of Mobile broadband data (US\$).
- b) Strengthening the enabling environment for cross-border digital services
 - Adoption of a regional mechanism to govern cross-border transfers of personal data.
 - Share of beneficiaries with new or improved income opportunities because of digital skills training, of which the percentage female.

Project Components

The Project is structured in four components, briefly described in the table below. A full description of the components is found in the PAD

Table 1: Component and Sub-Component for IGAD under EARDIP

COMPONENT
Component 1. Connectivity Market Development and Integration
1.1. Cross-border and national backbone network connectivity
1.2. Last mile connectivity, including in borderland areas
1.3. Enabling legal, regulatory, institutional ICT environment
Component 2. Data Market Development and Integration
2.1. Cybersecurity frameworks, infrastructure, and capacity
2.2. Data exchange, governance, and protection
Component 3. Online Market Development and Integration
3.1. Digital cross-border trade and service delivery
3.2. Regional research and education networks and training for digital skills
Component 4. Project Management and Implementation Support

3. OBJECTIVES OF THE POSITION

Under this project IGAD intends to recruit **Project Monitoring, Evaluation Officer** who will work within the Project PIU set-up, report to the Project Coordinator and be responsible for project monitoring system development with an action plan that will serve as basis for a systematic monitoring and evaluation intervention during the implementation of the project. The Monitoring and Evaluation Officer (M&EO) will be responsible for the planning, coordination and implementation of all project monitoring and evaluation activities; and for ensuring the quality and adequacy of the project monitoring for achieving the Project Development Objectives.

4. SCOPE OF WORK

The Project Monitoring and Evaluation Officer will be expected to carry out the following tasks;

- Leading the planning and coordination of the regular and systemic monitoring of the project's overall progress in achieving the relevant intermediate results indicators and the Project Development Objectives (PDO);
- Preparing regular project monitoring reports as required, in collaboration with other Project Implementation Unit (PIU) staff, identifying potential implementation risks in achieving the PDO, and proactively proposing potential solutions;
- Carrying out M&E need assessment using the predetermined and agreed methodology;
- Responsible for the development M&E framework and the implementation of the same for the project;
- Supporting the Project Coordinator in planning and commissioning the project mid-term review, communicating the review's results and undertaking follow-up actions;
- Establish and maintain a computer-based project M&E system that captures project progress against set indicators and targets of Results Framework and Monitoring (RFM), financial and physical progress of each project output;
- Guiding and supporting the PIU staff and other stakeholders involved in the project implementation in the proper monitoring and evaluation of project activities;
- Supporting and supervising the evaluation of the impact of selected project interventions;
- Cooperating with beneficiaries and stakeholders to ensure high quality project monitoring;
- Properly filing and maintaining all M & E documents and collecting the required data for the results indicators;
- Any other duties assigned by the management periodically, as required.

5. SELECTION CRITERIA

Master's degree in Social Science, Economics, or any other related fields, with at least 5 years of relevant work experience in monitoring and evaluation.

6. TECHNICAL COMPETENCIES

- Knowledge of monitoring and evaluation especially for digital projects is expected
- Prior experience of working with national and regional projects in the area of M & E
- Work experiences in working on World Bank funded projects is highly desirable;
- Ability to identify implementation issues and operational challenges, and provide recommendations to remedy these issues to accelerate project delivery
- Proven experience in research and data analysis;
- Knowledge of IGAD context and related work experience of carrying out similar assignment, in the IGAD region is an asset
- The candidate must have the highest levels of personal integrity, and a reputation for a transparent and systematic work style; and
- The candidate must be able to work under pressure situations, to meet demanding deadlines.
- Excellent proficiency in written and spoken English is required, Knowledge of French is an added advantage

7. GENERAL COMPETENCIES

(management, leadership, communication, problem solving, monitoring, coordination, stakeholder management etc.)

- Strongly results-oriented and able to manage a complex and multi-faceted workload with minimal supervision;
- Ability to determine and review priorities, plan and meet deadlines;
- Good decision-making skills;
- Excellent negotiation skills;
- Team player, with good interpersonal skills, and proven ability to function effectively with multiple host-country counterparts and multi-disciplinary teams;
- Excellent skills in facilitation and coordination, and ability to resolve conflicts constructively;
- Ability to maintain strategic overview and manage priorities yet be detail-orientated within a dynamic, fast-paced environment;
- Strong oral and written communication skills, including report writing;
- Strong problem-solving abilities;
- Solid IT skills including Word, Excel and PowerPoint;
- Should demonstrate a high degree of professionalism and integrity.

8. DURATION AND TIMELINES

This position will be home-based and for one-year renewable annually based on satisfactory performance and availability of funds over the project duration.

9. REPORTING ARRANGEMENTS

The Project Monitoring, Evaluation Officer will report to the Project Coordinator

10. HOW TO APPLY

Appropriately qualified applicants from IGAD Member States are eligible to apply.

Interested candidates should send their applications in PDF format enclosed with a **cover letter, Curriculum Vitae, academic documents, copy of passports/ ID cards biometric page, three reference persons including the last employer**. The application should be sent by E-mail to the following addresses: E-mail address: **recruitment@igad.int** with subject line '**EARDIP - MEO**'.

Closing date for application will be on **22nd April 2024**. Due to the large number of applications we expect to receive; only successful candidates who meet the required experience & qualifications for this position will be contacted. Contact: + 25321354050

IGAD is an equal opportunity employer. Female candidates are highly encouraged to apply