**SOLICITATION FOR CONSULTANCY SERVICES**

The African Centres for Lightning and Electromagnetics Network, Inc. (https://ACLENet.org) is a not-for-profit organization which aims to decrease deaths, injuries and property damage from lightning across Africa. National centres are registered as a non-governmental organizations (NGO), companies limited by guarantee, or Community Based Organizations (CBOs).  ACLENet operates within the cultural paradigms in each African nation to:

1. Assess the impact of lightning on each nation’s citizens and economy.
2. Educate teachers, parents, pupils and the general public on lightning safety and injury prevention.
3. Work with governments to assure that code-compliant lightning protection systems are designed and required for new schools and other important buildings.
4. Work with universities to train Africa’s own lightning experts for the future.
5. Improve engineering training and professional qualifications in lightning protection.
6. Advise on code-compliant lightning protection of utilities and other economically important industry.
7. Improve the availability of accurate and timely lightning data, weather forecasting, and warnings.

ACLENet began and the parent organization continues to be based in Uganda.

ACLENet successfully passed the first application stage for funding from the Global Innovation Fund (GIF). A basic requirement from GIF is the alignment of ACLENet’s work with one or more of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Up to $2.3 million is available for test/transition phase funding. A portion of this initial funding shall be used for consultancy services from a consulting company of international repute with a proven track record in Africa.

We seek partnership, advice and support of an international consultancy company for foundational stage preparation to enable ACLENet to move to the next level of success.

The solicited consultancy company should preferably have experience in one or more of the following fields:

1. Disaster Risk Reduction and Management
2. Emergency Response and Public Health Education
3. Education and quality of education
4. Multispectral Public Partnerships.
5. Investments in the above fields

**Terms of Reference**

The role of the international consultancy company shall be to conduct a scoping study focusing on:

1. SWOT analysis for ACLENet and ACLE-national centres
2. Assessment of public sector stakeholders, potential partners and players
3. Assessment of private sector stakeholders, potential partners and players
4. Recommendation of *modus operandi* with appropriate structuring on sustainable basis for delivering ACLENet’s stated objectives.

Funding for the work under consultation shall be established through a contractual partnership to be presented to GIF.

International Consultancy companies with experience working in Africa and with the above stated competencies are encouraged to submit clear proposals with detailed budgets.

Please submit to macooper@uic.edu

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