

TERMS OF REFERENCE

July 2023

Consultancy: Development of a Gender Assessment Report for the Nigerian 2023 General Election

Position Title: Election analysis/ assessment expert

<u>Contract Type:</u> <u>Short</u>

Project Location: Nigeria

<u>Project Duration:</u> 60 – 90 working days

Application Deadline: August 14, 2023.

Background

Elections in Nigeria play a crucial role in shaping the country's democratic landscape. Since the return to democracy in 1999, Nigeria has made significant progress in conducting regular elections and transitioning power peacefully. However, the electoral process in Nigeria faces various challenges, including voter apathy, political violence, vote buying, and electoral fraud. These issues have raised concerns about the integrity and fairness of elections, impacting public trust in the democratic system.

In addition to this, women face significant barriers to meaningful participation in the electoral process, both as voters and candidates. Deeply rooted cultural norms, limited access to resources, discriminatory practices, and violence against women in politics have hindered their full engagement within the country. Recognizing the need for gender equality and women's empowerment in political



decision-making, efforts have been made to promote women's participation and address gender gaps in the electoral process. Initiatives have been implemented to enhance women's representation and create a more inclusive political environment through electoral reforms and the strengthening of electoral institutions, such as the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC). Despite the ongoing work to improve the electoral process, significant challenges persist, and further steps are necessary to ensure equal opportunities, dismantle gender-based barriers, and harness the full potential of women's participation in Nigerian elections. A gender-centric approach to elections is crucial for achieving true democratic representation and fostering inclusive governance in Nigeria.

ElectHER actively engages in the electoral process to promote electoral democracy through citizen engagement and inclusion. In preparation for the 2023 elections, ElectHER explored a three-pronged approach made up of pre-election, election, and post-election activities that sought to assess, analyze and contribute to the interactions for the elections from a gender perspective. To achieve this, we deployed non-partisan support, analysis, and coordinated efforts for women and citizens throughout the country.

Our Pre-Election Activities encompassed observing and analyzing the off-cycle elections in Osun State, conducting research and policy analysis that resulted in the production of two gender-centric election reports and providing non-partisan support to women as aspirants and candidates. We also engaged in voter sensitization and citizen engagement activities by implementing digital campaigns and offering support for PVC collection. Additionally, we hosted the Green Wine Green Advocacy Gala as part of our advocacy efforts and conducted strategic stakeholder engagements with key organizations such as the INEC gender desk, INEC ICT unit, and CSOs (Civil Society Organizations).

During the Election Activities phase, we leveraged primary and secondary research to gather data



intelligence and deployed an MVP election technology platform that contributed to the ElectHER Election Hub. This hub served as a specialized hub for stakeholder engagements, observation, documentation, and analysis of the 2023 elections and provided real-time data analysis from the field to facilitate active citizen interaction with the electoral process through technology. Additionally, ElectHER recruited, virtually trained, and deployed domestic observers, as well as a team of analysts and technical experts who observed the 2023 presidential and gubernatorial elections across seven states, namely Abuja, Delta, Ekiti, Kwara, Kano, Kaduna, and Lagos. To enhance citizen engagement and foster a social atmosphere during the elections, ElectHER also launched a live elections podcast called "Keeping It 100."

The overarching objective of this Gender Assessment Report for the Nigerian 2023 General Elections, is to provide in-depth analysis of the election process and realities from a gender perspective, focusing on key indicators. A consultant with expertise on gender, politics and democracy will be hired to work with ElectHER to produce this report.

Objectives

The report will aim to:

- 1. Provide extensive analysis and insights on the Nigeria 2023 general election, from a gender perspective.
- 2. Highlight the challenges that female citizens, candidates and other categories of women, face during the electoral process.
- 3. Provide recommendations that will improve the electoral process, specifically for women
- 4. Serve as a technical resource for policymakers, learning institutions, development partners, civil society, the independent electoral body and the public.

5. Improve women's participation during the 2027 elections, and all subsequent elections.

Scope of the Assignment

The post-election report aims to provide an unbiased and thorough analysis of the entire electoral process. It will encompass an examination of the electoral process starting from the amended Electoral Act, the expression of interests to contest, the primary elections, and all activities leading up to the elections. The report will assess both the positive aspects and the challenges encountered during the election, highlighting the measures taken to address them, with a specific emphasis on gender perspectives. Additionally, the report will include an evaluation of the overall integrity and fairness of the election, taking into account an analysis of violence against women during the elections. It will also offer recommendations to address the identified challenges.

The consultant is expected to engage in the process of drafting the post-elections report that will present the experience of the 2023 elections, through a gender perspective. This will involve actively participating in the drafting process of the post-election report, conducting in-depth research and analysis to gather relevant data and insights. Through a gender lens, the consultant will assess the various stages of the electoral process, examining the inclusion and experiences of women. The consultant will scrutinize the effectiveness of measures taken to promote gender equality and address gender-related issues during the election. The consultant will provide evidence-based findings and recommendations to enhance future electoral processes, ensuring greater fairness, integrity, and gender inclusivity.

This report is expected to be a comprehensive and technically rigorous document, offering valuable insights into the Nigerian electoral process from a gender perspective. It will serve as a crucial resource for policymakers, electoral management bodies, civil society organizations, and other ElectHER is a non-partisan end-to-end women's political advancement organization aimed at increasing women's political participation through behavioural change communications, skills development and increased access to humam, social and financial capital.



stakeholders involved in promoting gender equality and democratic governance.

Methodology

Methodology will be developed in consultation between ElectHER and may include but is not limited to the following:

- Desk review of relevant documents, including internal observations reports, external observation reports from CSOs and election observation bodies, and other relevant documents and analysis of the referenced period.
- Consultations with selected stakeholders (which may include similar international election observation institutions, current and former staff members of ElectHER's election observation mission.

Job Description

Specifically, the consultant will be responsible for delivering the following:

- Lead the development of the election gender assessment report, identifying key barriers and recommendations for women's political participation and leadership.
- Develop a data collection, processing, and analysis strategy for the drafting of the election gender assessment report.
- Conduct a comprehensive situation analysis, consolidating inputs from various sources such as CSOs, INEC, gender experts, and the European Union Observation Mission (EUOM).
- Collaborate with key stakeholders, the ElectHER programme and policy team to produce the
 election report, incorporating technical input and providing expert advice on addressing issues
 of violence against women during the elections.
- Conduct a situation analysis in preparation for upcoming off-cycle elections and the 2027



elections.

Qualifications and Experience

- Degree in political science, law, international development, public administration, or a relevant field
- At least 5 years of experience implementing projects across democratic governance,
 gender inclusion, electoral observation/ analysis/ reporting, for CSOs and INOGOs
- Experience in producing high quality reports and analytical documents, with proof of work.
- Excellent research and writing skills with proof of work
- Demonstrated capacity to plan, prioritize and deliver tasks on time to meet goals
 in a highly pressured environment
- Strong communication and interpersonal skills
- Experience in developing stakeholder consultation exercises, including surveys
- Respect for diversity and intercultural understanding

Reporting Mechanism

The Consultant will report to the CEO of the organization by providing the following:

- a) An inception report within seven (7) days from the date of signing the contract, containing his/her understanding of the TORs, the work plan, methodology and the list of stakeholders that will be consulted in the process;
- b) A progress report with the zero-draft within three (3) weeks from the date of signing the contract;
- c) Final draft within five (5) weeks from the date of signing the contract;
- d) A close-out report for the exercise within six (6) weeks from the date of signing the contract. ElectHER is a non-partisan end-to-end women's political advancement organization aimed at increasing women's political participation through behavioural change communications, skills development and increased access to humam, social and financial capital.



How to apply

The applicant must submit the following documents to procurement@elect-her.org:

- A curriculum vitae and a motivation letter explaining why he/she is suitable to carry out the
 expected tasks.
- A brief outline of how he/she might approach project implementation.
- Submit 2-3 samples of a relevant research and policy document he/she has produced

About ElectHER:

ElectHER is a non-partisan non-governmental organization advancing the inclusion of women in politics and public life through behavioral change communications, community building, capacitydevelopment, tech innovation, and increased access to social, human, and financial resources. www.elect-her.org

This task is undertaken within the European Union Support to Democratic Governance in Nigeria (EU-SDGN) project, currently being implemented by ElectHER, with additional support from the International Republican Institute.