Midterm Evaluation of Swedish Support to Pan Africa Climate Justice Alliance

Terms of Reference

Date: April, 2023
1. Background

The Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida), provided financial core support to the Pan African Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA) within the framework of the Swedish Regional Strategy for Africa since 2012. PACJA is a continental coalition of civil society organizations in the African continent, brought together by a common goal of promoting and advocating for climate-friendly and equity-based development. Pursuant to continued Partnership between PACJA and Government of Sweden through Sida, and Swedish Government’s regional strategy as well as PACJA’s strategic plan 2021 – 2025 the Alliance submitted another Project proposal entitled, “Galvanizing and Unifying Africa’s Action for Resilient Development in the era of the Pandemic (Guard-Africa) which is a three year project commencing January 2022 to December 2024. This project builds on the effort to entrench the civil society as central pillar in NDCs implementation in countries, intergovernmental processes and regionally.

Guard-Africa aims to be a transformative catalyst in Africa’s conversations on NDCs and overall climate action drawing from its convening power and grassroots mobilisation, through bottom-up, Community-driven policy choices. The project aims at enhancing the capacity Designated National Platform (DNPs) as central pillars of climate action at national level to influence global, regional institutions towards fulfilment of Climate change commitments including the Paris Agreement, the NDCs and on-going initiatives in Africa, particularly under the ClimDev Initiative.

It is also supporting DNPs and dedicated Initiatives to contribute to other related processes such as the African Ministerial Conference on Environment (AMCEN), the RECs’ climate Strategy and policy processes; and frameworks and strategies to address national climate change challenges by various countries.

**Project Goal:** African civil society is mobilized and empowered to secure environmental and climate justice for all peoples in Africa

**Project outcomes:**

**Outcome 1:** National, Sub-regional and Regional Policies, Plans and Programmes are influenced by evidence-based CSO narratives, policy analyses and advice

**Outcome 2:** Accountable national governments and private sector institutions that uphold Business and Human Rights principles including implementation of NDCs in line with the Paris Agreement

**Outcome 3:** Public awareness raised and African CSOs are mobilized and empowered to engage in Post-Paris climate change dialogues and response strategies in the context of SDGs

**Outcome 4:** Enhanced capacity of PACJA organs, national platforms and dedicated sector-based initiatives to be effective catalysts for galvanization of action for resilient development in Africa

According to the Agreement between Sida and PACJA, Sida is to carry out a midterm-evaluation of the Swedish financial support, the organisation and its operations in the first half of the project duration. PACJA, their member organisations, and Sida are the main stakeholders of the evaluation. Other donors will be consulted in the process where necessary in order to create synergies and provide input to the process.
2. Midterm review Purpose and Objective

The objective of the midterm evaluation is to assess achievements’ that have been made towards the agreed results framework, linking to the overall objective, outcomes, outputs, impacts and indicators. The evaluation will focus on the relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, results and sustainability of the programme’s implementation; it will also highlight issues requiring decisions and actions; and will present key lessons learned about project design, implementation and management. The findings of this evaluation are foreseen to inform future Sida work in the climate change space.

The specific objectives of the evaluation are to provide information regarding the implementation of the PACJA programme with respect to the following:

a) **Relevance** - Assess and analyse to what extent PACJA activities/ operations at regional and national level have responded to the needs and demands in Africa and the priorities of the target groups; REC’s, multilaterals and (CSO’s) in relation to natural resources management and climate change.

b) **Efficiency** – Assess and analyse the cost-effectiveness of the programme. This refers to the extent to which the costs of PACJA can be justified by results and advancements in the area of climate change, taking reasonable alternatives into account.

c) **Effectiveness** – Assess to what extent PACJA has achieved results in relation to its overall objective, projected outcomes and outputs.

d) **Impact** – Assess the overall impact that PACJA has contributed at the regional and national platforms in relation to the initial objectives.

e) **Sustainability** – Assess the organisation’s conditions for short- and long term institutional and financial sustainability in the region.

f) **Co-ordination and coherence** – Assess whether the organisation has succeeded to coordinate its efforts with regional- and multilateral organisations in the region.

g) **Cross-cutting issues** – Assess to what level PACJA has integrated cross-cutting issues, such as gender, MEAL, human rights and health issues at the operations, institutional and partner- organisations level.
3. Scope and Delimitations

The evaluation is to cover the implementation period from January 2022 to December 2022. The aim is to primarily cover the organisation’s operations at the regional level, but also link to and assess its impact at the various national platforms, where relevant. It is recommended that PACJA’s partner organisations be actively involved in this evaluation.

4. Organisation, Management and Stakeholders

Based on the Terms of Reference, the consultants are required to submit a proposal on how they deem that the Assignment is to be organized and carried out. This proposal is to be discussed and agreed upon with Sida and PACJA, before the implementation of the same.

5. Scope of work

According to the Agreement between PACJA and Sida the following questions should be looked at:

Relevance

- How has PACJA addressed the needs and priorities in relation to climate change and natural resources of the member organizations?
- How have the perspectives on adaptation and mitigation of the civil society been addressed and integrated in national and regional policy formulation and implementation at regional and/or national level?

Efficiency

- How has PACJA operated as a coordinating organisation? Has the Secretariat capacity and resources been favourable for smooth operations according to PACJA’s mandate and expected results?
- How has the quality of personnel and other resources performed in relation to implementation of PACJA’s strategic plan, overall management, project follow-ups, monitoring and reporting?
- How has Sweden’s role as a financing partner been in terms of efficiency? What has worked well? What aspects may be improved?
- What are the key lessons learnt from the implementation of the project?
- Has the organisation sufficiently improved her capacity and efficiency in the attainment of her vision, mission and objectives? Have there been any major deviations in implementation?
- What are the emerging risks and challenges in relation to results framework and general implementation?
Effectiveness

- To what extent has the capacity building of selected national/regional platforms contributed to the delivery of expected results in terms of skills development and operations?
- Has PACJA succeeded in building capacities and coordinating with the civil society and other relevant partners working on climate change? (with focus on the specific regional/national priorities and needs)
- How has the intervention contributed to policy elaboration and implementation within the continent with specific focus on sub regional and national priorities and needs?
- To what extent has international climate policies/strategies responsive to African realities and concerns been attained and implemented?
- To what extent has PACJA contributed to empowering African CSOs to hold their governments accountable on the domestication of UNFCCC agreement and decisions?
- How has PACJA’s monitoring system generally performed in terms of capturing progress at objective and results levels?

Impact

- What key impacts has the project created in the respective countries of operation? Has PACJA worked as an important catalyst in the Regional and sub-regional platform for discussions on climate change within the continent? How has the project influenced PACJA’s position in the climate governance space and how it relates with its partner organisations?

Sustainability

- Is PACJA sustainable in terms of finances, institutional capacity, implementation of the strategic plan, regional/national platforms etc.?
- Does the organisation have a feasible exit phase for the Swedish support?

Co-ordination and coherence

- How effective and intense has the coordination between PACJA, partner organisations, the REC’s and multilateral organisations been in relation to the work on climate change?
- Has coherence among different actors and initiatives been achieved?
- How has the organisation succeeded in working with the regional organisations and the other regional institutions in the region?
- How has PACJA performed in terms of implementing an efficient framework for donor harmonisation in relation to reporting, enhancing cost efficiency and harmonization of plans and activities for maximum impact?
• How has it worked between the Swedish support and those from other donors?

**Stakeholder involvement**

• To what extent has PACJA involved stakeholders in its operations in the region?
• Has the PACJA been able to establish long-term sustainable networks within the policy making arena?
• To what extent has PACJA involved strategic partners such as civil society, private sector, academia, media, and parliamentarians in the discussion and its work?
• Has PACJA through her networks been able to collaborate and promote CSOs that act as watchdogs in the respective area of work?

**Cross-cutting issues**

• How has PACJA addressed cross-cutting issues within the environment/climate change sector, such as gender, governance, health and human rights?
• Are there particular cross-cutting issues that any future collaboration between Sweden and PACJA in the area of climate change should put enhanced focus on?
• How has PACJA integrated the various African sub-regional diversities (e.g. politics, culture, language)? What are the gaps and how can they be addressed going into the future?

The evaluation should effectively:

• Provide an independent assessment of the performance of PACJA against the objectives, based on analysis applying the Results Based Management approach.
• Report and recommend any risks and their impacts
• Provide recommendation on how activity planning, reporting and monitoring procedures had worked in relation to Results Based Management.

6. **Conclusions, Recommendation and Lessons Learned**

Conclusions, lessons learned, and recommendations are expected to be clearly stated in the report with respect to the purpose of the evaluation and the suggested questions.

7. **Approach and Methodology**

It is proposed that the evaluation be carried out using different methods.

Approaches such as a desk-study, questionnaires, and structured and semi-structured interviews could be mixed. However, the Consultant is expected to elaborate on the proposed methodology in the proposal of the assignment, before initiating the same.

8. **Time Schedule and Reporting**
The work is foreseen to be carried out in June 2022.

A draft report shall be submitted not more than 4 weeks after signing of the agreement.

The draft report will be shared with stakeholders who will submit their comments on the Draft Report before submission to Sida.

The Consultant is thereafter required to submit the Final Report at least not more than 7 days after receiving comments from Sida.

The consultant shall suggest a specified time and work plan in the tender and finalize it with PACJA at the time of signing the contract.

All reports shall be written in the English language.

The final report shall not exceed 30 pages (excluding Annexes) and shall contain an Executive Summary which shall include the main conclusions and recommendations.

The Consultant shall immediately inform PACJA should unforeseen circumstances prevent the evaluator from pursuing the evaluation as planned. Any other questions or queries with respect to the Assignment may also be put to ann.kobia@pacja.org copying fathiya@pacja.org and charles.mwangi@pacja.org

9. Qualification of the consultant/s

Apart from including extensive and advanced evaluation expertise, the evaluation team for this assignment should demonstrate that they have deep knowledge about climate change and regional integration in Africa.

The consultant/s should have expertise in Climate change, communication/advocacy and formulation, monitoring and evaluation of development programs. It is an asset if the consultant has worked at regional level with CSO’s in Africa and or other developing countries. It is important that the professional/s have knowledge about the socio-political and cultural context in Africa. Other issues that will be considered include familiarity with Sida, development strategies and experience in rights-based approaches. The consultant/s should be fluent in English and must have experience and capacity to work in an international setup.

10. References

The following documentation will be made available to the successful Consultant:

- Narrative reports
- Financial reports
- Audit reports
- The Agreement between Sida and PACJA (2022-2024)
- The Swedish Regional Strategy for Africa
- The Strategy for PACJA (2021-2025)
- The Constitution of PACJA
- The Programme Document and RFA
- Sida’s Template for Evaluation Reports
- Sida’s Template for Management Response for Evaluation

All applications should be sent to ann.kobia@pacja.org, copying fathiya@pacja.org and charles.mwangi@pacja.org