



## INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

'A Diagnostic Assessment of Corruption in The Primary and Secondary Education (PSE) Sector in Zimbabwe.'

Deadline: 27 February 2023 (4pm)

### About TI Z

TI Z is a non-profit, non-partisan, systems-oriented local chapter of the international movement against corruption. Its broad mandate is to fight corruption and related vices through networks of integrity in line with the Global Strategy. TI Z believes corruption can only be sufficiently tackled by all citizens including people at grass root level.

### About the call

TIZ carries out research to advance knowledge in the area of corruption, anti-corruption and governance in Zimbabwe through its Research and Information Unit (RIU). The organisation believes that professionally generated applied research is the basis for knowledge and information management on corruption related issues including research-based advocacy. Such research assists in governance planning, social and economic development, and investment planning for private and public sector projects, local and international organizations. This call is therefore meant to support TI Z's ongoing activities on carrying out annual studies on the state of corruption in Zimbabwe.

The specific area of focus in this particular research is the primary and secondary education (PSE) sector in the country, which ongoing media coverage shows as being vulnerable to various corrupt practices. Whilst there are many definitions of corruption, in this specific exercise TI Z defines education corruption as *the systemic use of one's position of influence or authority in the provision of educational goods and services, for private or material gain*. In brief, the major forms of corruption affecting the PSE sector in Zimbabwe noted by TI Z include but are not limited to bribery (for instance bribe taking for enrolment in secondary schools or boarding places); academic fraud (e.g. exam leaks); extortion (e.g., coercion/demand for people to pay for services such as extra lessons/supplementary tutoring); favouritism, nepotism and patronage (e.g., in the recruitment process, deployment and transfers of teachers); embezzlement (e.g., abuse of the Basic Education Assistance Module – BEAM and general misappropriation of institutional funds); procurement irregularities/malpractices (e.g. improper awarding of tenders at Primary and Secondary schools); high rates of teacher absenteeism and misuse of school resources and sextortion (e.g., victims forced to offer sexual favours when seeking placements at schools for their children).<sup>1</sup>

Notwithstanding the high visibility of education corruption in Zimbabwe TI Z's assessment is that there is limited consolidated empirical evidence on the issue to use in planning *for*, and governance *of* the sector. At the same time, TI Z's extensive interaction with the public shows that it is a matter of deep concern to citizens in the country. In this regard, TI Z would like to carry out diagnostic research to explain the dynamics of education corruption in the country.

### Deliverables

The Consultant(s) are expected to support TI Z's RIU to carry out data gathering, data collation, analysis and reporting on the nature of corruption in the tertiary education sector in Zimbabwe. This will include analysis of documentation such as past studies linked to the topic of corruption in higher education in Zimbabwe, policies and

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<sup>1</sup> The International Association of Women Judges (IAWJ) defines sextortion as "the abuse of power to obtain a sexual benefit or advantage. Sextortion is the form of corruption in which sex, rather than money, is the currency of the bribe" (IAWJ 2017: 19).

regulations, media reports, parliamentary debates, public audit reports, journals and websites to name a few. Employing the mixed research methods strategy by combining qualitative and quantitative data, they will in consultation with the RIU prepare the appropriate data gathering instruments for survey research design and deploy the appropriate resources in the field to gather the data.

The consultants will collate and analyse the data using agreed methodology and tools and co-author with TI Z an 8,000 to 12,000-word research report for validation and subsequent publication. The research design and content should incorporate underlying concerns of the impacts of corruption on gender and human rights. The findings will be packaged for Academics/researchers, CSOs, anti-corruption agencies and policymakers.

## Timeframe

The anticipated level of effort for the entire process is 36 working days, with 30 working days being consultant days. The consultant deliverables are as follows:

- Planning meeting to review TORs and agree milestones (½ working day)
- Doc review, analysis (5 days)
- Data gathering, collation and report writing for first draft (20 days)
- Review (Internal/open external peer review including plagiarism check (1 working day)
- Amendments in line with review comments (2 working days)
- Validation meeting to review preliminary findings (1 working day)
- Production of second draft using inputs from validation meeting (1 working day)
- Further review of second draft by Director (1 working day)
- Design/typesetting of final draft including ISBN application (3 working days)
- Publication/launch meeting for research (1 working day)
- Research post-mortem meeting (½ day)

## Qualifications

### 1. Education

Interested consultants should have a minimum of the following:

- a Master's degree in Education, Public Policy, Political Science, Governance, or Economics

### 2. Technical experience and requirements

- Demonstrated experience in use of research data analysis software (for both quantitative and qualitative data)
- Demonstrable experience in the area of Public Policy Analysis and Advocacy, Public Finance, Governance, Economics, Research or related areas
- Knowledge of and/or proven expertise in the Civil society sector, conducting related assignments and presenting papers
- Written and Visual Storytelling and impeccable communication skills.

## Documents

Interested candidates must submit the following documents/information to demonstrate their qualifications:

- Team member CVs/profiles highlighting past experience in similar projects/assignments and indicate at least 3 references;
- A one-page expression of interest explaining:
  - why they are the most suitable to conduct the assignment
  - Brief methodology/roadmap on how they will approach the work

- the cost of the data capture, collation and analysis using the appropriate tools. Please note that financial proposals will be evaluated based on budgeted funds for the assignment, and that TI Z will negotiate with the best consultants based on our evaluation criteria;
- At least one example of a past research paper which they have produced directly for advocacy purposes;
- VAT certificates for submission together with the subsequent invoice for payment.

#### Resources, Roles and responsibilities

The service provider will work closely with TI Z's Senior Research officer in conducting the research. TI Z's RIU will be responsible for preparing the Terms of Reference (ToRs); selecting, contracting and managing the consultants; actively engaging with the consultants during the research process in line with the organisational research policy.

#### Terms of payment

TI Z will make payment for the assignment upon satisfactory completion of the task.

#### Contact Details

Any hard copy documents and discs must be submitted in a sealed envelope, clearly marked on the outside with the category and must be hand delivered to 96 Central Avenue, Harare. Alternatively, documents and links can be emailed to [tiz@tizim.org](mailto:tiz@tizim.org). The closing date for submission of documents is end of day on 27 February 2023 and no documents shall be received or entertained after this due date.