

**EXPRESSION OF INTEREST – CONSULTANCY TO FACILITATE A ONE-DAY NATIONAL MULTI-STAKEHOLDER DIALOGUE AND ADVOCACY FORUM WITH POLITICAL PARTIES, ELECTORAL MANAGEMENT BODIES, SECURITY AGENCIES, AND KEY STAKEHOLDERS TO ADVANCE GENDER-RESPONSIVE ELECTORAL GOVERNANCE THROUGH STRENGTHENED ENFORCEMENT, COMPLIANCE, AND ACCOUNTABILITY OF EXISTING LEGAL AND POLICY FRAMEWORKS AHEAD OF THE 2027 GENERAL ELECTIONS.**

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## **INTRODUCTION**

Echo Network Africa Foundation (ENAF) is a Pan-African philanthropic organization that works collaboratively with likeminded stakeholders to empower, position, and advocate for girls and women in Africa. Founded in 1982, ENAF’s vision is of an inclusive society where girls and women enjoy full rights and participate meaningfully in all spheres of life. ENAF’s approach is deliberate in prioritizing women and girls especially youth, women with disabilities, and those from marginalized communities through transformational leadership and institutional strengthening.

Despite the existence of legal and policy frameworks, including the Constitution of Kenya (2010), women and other marginalized groups remain underrepresented in governance. Structural and political barriers continue to hinder the full realization of women’s constitutional rights. In response, ENAF incubated a participatory funding model to advance women’s political leadership in Kenya. This led to the establishment of the Democracy Trust Fund (DTF), a structured, independent national organization registered as a Trust on 9 December 2019. With its own Board of Trustees and functional Secretariat, DTF provides continuous, targeted support to women seeking leadership in political, civic, and governance spaces, thereby accelerating women’s participation at all levels of society.

In 2026, ENAF and DTF, in partnership with Hanns Seidel Foundation (HSF), are implementing the ***Safeguarding Gender Gains Program***, which aims to strengthen democratic resilience in Kenya by safeguarding women’s political participation during the 2026 pre-election period through enhanced electoral justice and peaceful political engagement.

## **RATIONALE FOR THE NATIONAL MULTI-STAKEHOLDER DIALOGUE AND ADVOCACY FORUM.**

Electoral processes require coordinated engagement among state and non-state actors to ensure inclusivity, credibility, and adherence to democratic principles of governance and the rule of law. In Kenya, political parties and electoral management bodies play a central role in shaping political participation and electoral outcomes.

However, despite the existence of comprehensive constitutional, legal, and policy frameworks on gender equality and inclusive political participation, persistent gaps remain in their enforcement and implementation. Political parties, which serve as the primary gateways to elective office, continue to exhibit weak compliance with internal democratic processes and gender responsive nomination mechanisms.

Evidence from previous electoral cycles shows that women aspirants face systemic barriers in accessing party membership, leadership positions, and nomination tickets. These barriers are further reinforced by transactional political practices, patronage networks, and weak accountability mechanisms within political parties and related institutions.

While Kenya has made significant normative commitments to gender equality, including constitutional provisions on inclusion, the core challenge remains implementation and enforcement across political and electoral institutions. As the country approaches the 2027 General Elections, the 2026 pre-election period presents a critical window to strengthen compliance, reinforce institutional accountability, and ensure adherence to existing legal and policy frameworks.

It is within this context that ENAF and DTF seek to convene a National Multi Stakeholder Dialogue and Advocacy Forum to promote inclusive, accountable, and gender responsive electoral governance by strengthening enforcement, compliance, and accountability for existing legal and policy frameworks, and by securing concrete commitments from key actors towards improved implementation ahead of the 2027 General Elections.

### **OBJECTIVE OF THE CONSULTANCY**

The overall objective of the consultancy is to facilitate a one-day National Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue and Policy Advocacy Forum that will bring together women leaders, gender champions, political parties officials, electoral management bodies, security agencies, and other key stakeholders to strengthen enforcement, compliance, and accountability for existing gender responsive legal and electoral governance frameworks as Kenya gears up to the 2027 General Elections. Specifically, the forum will seek to:

- I. Identify systemic barriers limiting women's political participation within political party and electoral systems.
- II. Generate practical, actionable, and stakeholder owned policy and institutional reform recommendations.
- III. Strengthen coordination and collaboration among key actors in advancing inclusive and peaceful electoral processes ahead of the 2027 General Elections.

### **KEY TASKS, DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

**The consultant will be expected to:**

- I. Facilitate the one day national multi stakeholder dialogue and policy advocacy forum on **5<sup>th</sup> June 2026** and guide discussions towards actionable recommendations to strengthen enforcement, compliance, and accountability mechanisms.
- II. Clearly articulate stakeholder commitments and agreed follow up actions to improve implementation ahead of the 2027 General Elections.

### **Deliverables**

- I. Successful facilitation of the one-day National Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue and Policy Advocacy Forum scheduled for **5<sup>th</sup> June 2026**.
- II. Guided multi-stakeholder engagement towards identifying priority reforms, policy gaps, and institutional actions required to strengthen gender responsive electoral processes.
- III. A comprehensive report capturing key discussions, outcomes, policy recommendations, and stakeholder commitments ahead of the 2027 General Elections.

### **SKILLS AND COMPETENCES**

**Qualification:** The candidate(s) should have a background knowledge and competency in the following fields:

- I. Demonstrated expertise in gender, governance, and democracy.

- II. Strong understanding of political processes and electoral systems in Kenya.
- III. Excellent communication, moderation, and stakeholder engagement skills

**Assignment duration:**

The consultant will be engaged over a period of one (1) day on **5<sup>th</sup> June 2026**.

**Expression of Interest:**

The consultants meeting the above requirements should submit an Expression of Interest which should include the following:

- A capability statement, including commitment for availability for the assignment.
- A financial proposal indicating a modest budget available.
- Provide at least one sample of previous work.

Kindly send your CVs to [procurement@enafrika.org](mailto:procurement@enafrika.org) on or before **Friday, 29<sup>th</sup> May 2026**.