

CALL FOR TENDERS
Mid-Term Evaluation of the Corporate Accountability, Resilience and Participation for an Equitable Transition (CARPET) Project

Contracting information

Contracting entity	Business and Human Rights Resource Centre (BHRRC UK)
Project	Corporate Accountability, Resilience and Participation for an Equitable Transition (CARPET)
Project reference	NDCI HR INTPA/2024/177407-1/42
Funding source	Co-funded by the European Union under the NDICI-Global Europe Programme
Type of contract	Service contract for external evaluation
Estimated contract signature and start date	30 September 2026
Submission deadline	24 August 2026, 1700HRS CET
Submission email address	CARPET@business-humanrights.org

Background

The CARPET Project is a 42-month action implemented from 1 January 2025. It is led by the Business & Human Rights Resource Centre (BHRRC UK) in partnership with the Network of African National Human Rights Institutions (NANHRI) in Kenya and Yayasan Lembaga Bantuan Hukum Indonesia (YLBHI) in Indonesia.

The project operates across Kenya, South Africa, Indonesia, and the Philippines and focuses on four high-risk sectors: critical minerals mining, renewable energy, textiles, and agribusiness. It seeks to support a transition to a green, rights-based economy in Africa and Asia through stronger rights-holder agency, improved business practice, and more rights-respecting public policy.

Purpose of the assignment

The purpose of this assignment is to conduct an independent mid-term evaluation of the CARPET project to support evidence-based decision-making during the remaining implementation period. The evaluation will cover project implementation from 1 January 2025 to 30 September 2026 and will serve two complementary purposes: learning and adaptive management, and accountability for progress and emerging results.

The evaluation will assess whether the project remains relevant and is on track to achieve its intended outcomes, examine its contribution to observed and emerging changes, and provide practical, prioritised recommendations for strengthening implementation, learning and sustainability. The detailed evaluation objectives, questions and methodological requirements are set out in the accompanying Terms of Reference.

The external evaluator, selected through a competitive tender process, will carry out the evaluation through consultations with the project team, consortium partners, the European Commission and EU Delegation staff, and other relevant stakeholders. The evaluation will be guided by relevant European Commission evaluation principles and methodological good practice, including established approaches for external action evaluations.

Scope of work

The successful tenderer will be expected to:

- Assess the continued relevance and coherence of the project's intervention logic, assumptions and country and sector strategies
- Examine progress toward outcomes, contribution to wider change, the functioning of partnerships.
- Review the design, management and early implementation of the Financial Support to Third Parties component, recognising its stage of implementation.
- Identify key lessons, risks and adaptation needs.
- Provide feasible and prioritised recommendations for the remaining implementation period

The evaluation will apply the OECD DAC criteria proportionately and use a contribution-oriented approach. It will be conducted primarily remotely, supported where appropriate by locally based expertise or data-collection support. No international travel is anticipated.

Indicative assignment timeline

Assignment activity	Indicative timing
Contract signature and mobilisation	30 September 2026
Inception phase	4-18 October 2026
Desk review and tool finalisation	By 18 October 2026
Primary data collection	November 2026
Analysis and debrief	7-14 December 2026
Draft report submission	21 December 2026
Final report and close-out	29 January 2027

Required expertise

The tenderer should propose a team with a strong mix of evaluation and subject-matter expertise. At minimum, the team should demonstrate:

- Proven experience leading external evaluations of multi-country development, governance, or human rights programmes.
- Strong knowledge of OECD DAC evaluation criteria and mixed-method evaluation design.
- Demonstrable expertise in business and human rights, corporate accountability, human rights due diligence, civic space, labour/community rights, and/or just transition issues.
- Experience working in Africa and Asia, preferably including one or more of the target countries.
- Experience working with human rights-based civil society organisations.

- Capacity to conduct politically and ethically sensitive research involving rights-holders and civil society actors.
- Strong analytical and report-writing skills in English.
- Gender, inclusion, safeguarding, and do-no-harm competence.

Documentation

Interested tenderers should submit one complete proposal package containing the following:

- Technical proposal describing the understanding of the assignment, proposed methodology, workplan, team composition, and quality assurance approach.
- Financial proposal showing the total price in EURO, with a clear budget breakdown and any applicable taxes clearly indicated.
- A brief description of the organisation or consultant team (Bios/CVs of all proposed team members) clearly identifying the Team Leader and any thematic or country experts.
- Legal registration status of the organisation where applicable.
- At least two examples of comparable evaluation work undertaken in the last five years, with contactable references.

Tender submission requirements

Tenderers should submit one complete proposal package in English containing:

1. A technical proposal, not exceeding 10 pages excluding annexes, setting out:
 - Understanding of the assignment
 - Proposed methodology and sampling approach;
 - Work plan and allocation of expert days;
 - Team composition and division of responsibilities;
 - Risk management, ethics and safeguarding approach;
 - Quality-assurance arrangements; and
 - Confirmation of availability during the proposed assignment period.
2. An all-inclusive financial proposal in Euros, prepared in accordance with the requirements above.
3. CVs of all proposed team members, clearly identifying the team leader and any thematic, country or methodological experts.
4. Two examples of comparable evaluation assignments completed within the past five years.
5. Contact details for two professional referees familiar with the tenderer's relevant work.
6. Evidence of legal registration and tax status, where applicable.
7. A declaration of any actual, potential or perceived conflicts of interest, including previous involvement in the design or implementation of the CARPET project.

Proposals should be submitted by email to CARPET@business-humanrights.org with the subject line: "**CARPET Mid-Term Evaluation Tender – [Tenderer name]**"

Tenders received after the stated deadline 24 August 2026, 1700HRS CET may be excluded from consideration. The contracting entity may invite shortlisted tenderers for clarification or an interview, if required.

Evaluation of tenders

Tenders will be evaluated against pre-disclosed criteria. Unless the contracting entity is required to use a different format under the applicable rules, the following sample award framework may be used:

Evaluation criterion	Weighting
Technical proposal and methodology	35%
Relevant experience and thematic expertise	25%
Team composition and regional experience	15%
Work plan, risk management and availability	5%
Financial proposal and value for money	20%

Contract management and reporting

The contract will be managed by BHRRC UK, which will coordinate access to project documentation, comments consolidation, scheduling, and logistical arrangements. The evaluator will remain independent in the formulation of findings, conclusions, and recommendations. All reports, presentations, datasets, tools, and other deliverables produced under this assignment shall be submitted to BHRRC UK and treated as confidential, unless otherwise agreed in writing. BHRRC UK shall have the right to use, reproduce, share, and circulate the evaluation outputs for management, accountability, learning, audit, and donor-reporting purposes, including sharing them with the European Commission and relevant EU Delegation staff. The evaluator may not publish, reproduce or otherwise use project data or deliverables without BHRRC's prior written approval. All personal and sensitive information must be processed securely and in accordance with applicable data-protection requirements and the agreed data-management protocol. Evaluation data should be anonymised or de-identified wherever possible.