



## **AWDF Project Final Evaluation**

### **Movement Building for Collaborative Advocacy on the Maputo Protocol**

#### **Terms of Reference**

**Deadline for bids: May 23rd 2025**

## **1. Background**

**Equality Now**, is an international women's rights organization founded in 1992 that works to achieve legal and systemic changes that addresses violence and discrimination against women and girls around the world, with a focus on ending Sexual violence, ending Harmful practices, Female Genital Mutilation, and Child, Early and Forced Marriage (FGM and CEFM), Discrimination in Law and ending Sexual Exploitation. Combining grassroots activism with international, regional and national legal advocacy, Equality Now's approach links high level policy advocacy and global activism with support and legal advice to grassroots partners and networks working on specific cases of women and girls in order to promote change at all levels.

Equality Now's Africa Office convenes the Solidarity for African Women's Rights (SOAWR) Coalition, a regional network of over 70 national, regional and international civil society organisations based in over 30 countries in Africa. Since its inauguration in 2004, SOAWR's main area of focus has been to advocate for African States to urgently sign, ratify, domesticate and implement the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa (the "Maputo Protocol") as a critical tool to realise the human rights of women and girls.

### **African Women's Development Fund (AWDF)**

AWDF is a Pan-African grant making organisation that supports the realisation and fulfilment of African women's rights through funding of autonomous women's organisations on the continent.

## **2. The Project**

The Movement Building for Collaborative Advocacy on the Maputo Protocol project commenced implementation in January 2024 and includes activities at the regional level and in the SOAWR member countries. Key activities include those financed through agreements at the SOAWR cluster level (groups of SOAWR members organised in different regions). The project aims to reinforce SOAWR's strategic engagement in policy advocacy and legal reforms, ensuring the realization of women's rights as enshrined in the Maputo Protocol. The 20-month grant supports the SOAWR Coalition's work at the secretariat and cluster level, with the bulk of the funds supporting the Regional Clusters to undertake collective action to promote the ratification, domestication, and implementation of the Maputo Protocol. The Coalition is governed by a Steering Committee, elected by members every 4 years and are representatives of the 7 regional clusters. The collaborative work is catalysed by the seven regional clusters (Central Africa, Eastern Africa, Northern Africa, Southern Africa, Anglophone West Africa, Francophone West Africa and Continental). Equality Now, as the Secretariat is also implementing a number of activities under this grant. Activities are expected to conclude by 15/09/2025.

### **Overall goal**



The overall goal of the project is to ensure that “Women and girls in Africa fully enjoy their rights as provided for in the Maputo Protocol” and we seek to contribute to this through the attainment of a set of short and medium term outcomes.

### **Medium term outcome**

Within the lifetime of the project, we aimed to contribute to the achievement of the following medium term outcomes:

- M1. Greater number of countries targeted by the Initiative have ratified the protocol and/or lifted their reservations
- M2. Greater domestication of the protocol by countries that have ratified (*Note: domestication = harmonisation of national laws to comply with the provisions of the Protocol*)
- M3. Increased implementation of the protocol in countries that have ratified

### **Short term outcomes**

The short term outcomes reflect the main strategies of the project: strengthening of SOAWR and wider movement building, awareness-raising and public campaigning, and advocacy and engagement with national governments, both directly and through official regional and international organisations:

- S1. Enhanced capacity and strengthened collaboration of SOAWR Coalition for effective promotion of the ratification, domestication, and implementation of the Maputo Protocol.
- S2. Governments of targeted countries recognize the importance of ratification, domestication, and implementation of the Maputo Protocol (MP).

### **Outputs**

The activities implemented under the project aim to bring about outputs (referred to as outcomes in AWDF documentation) that will contribute to the achievement of the outcomes. These outputs emphasize the consolidation of regional clusters, capacity building for SOAWR members, enhanced collaboration with civil society organizations, and sustained advocacy efforts targeting governments and key decision-makers.

- O1. SOAWR regional clusters consolidated and with increased capacity to promote ratification, domestication and implementation of the Maputo Protocol (RD&I of MP)
- O2. Greater understanding and capacity of SOAWR members to promote RD&I of MP
- O3. SOAWR has greater capacity for effective collaboration with other CSOs for RD&I of the MP
- O4. Governments and other national decision-makers have been reached through SOAWR advocacy and engagement on RD&I of MP

### **AWDF Outcomes**

The project’s achievements are also conceived and tracked in relation to two outcomes from the donor’s MEL framework:

- Outcome 2. Improved capacity of WROs and movements
- Outcome 4. Improved laws and policies that advance women and girls rights

These outcomes overlap significantly with several of the project outcomes and outputs but are assessed through relevant indicators from the AWDF MEL framework.

### **3. Scope of the Work**

The evaluation should identify the principal changes that have been brought about through the project, analyse their relevance and sustainability, and identify the factors that facilitated or limited the achievements and impact of the project, including the effectiveness and efficiency of its design and implementation. Through this, we seek to identify what lessons can be drawn from the project, as well as recommendations for future programming and learning by Equality Now, the project partners, donors, official agencies, and others.

The evaluation should be focused on the following key questions:

### **3.1. Relevance**

- Was the project design relevant to the identified needs?
- How well did the project design and implementation strategy address the identified problems and gaps within the target communities or sectors?
- Were the selected interventions and approaches appropriate given the socio-political, economic, and cultural context of the implementation areas?

### **3.2. Effectiveness**

- To what extent did the project deliver its planned outputs and desired outcomes?
- Which were the most effective activities and approaches used, and which were the least effective?
- Did the ways in which Equality Now managed the project help or hinder learning, adaptation and the achievement of positive change?

### **3.3. Efficiency**

- Was the process of achieving results efficient? Did the actual or expected results (outputs and short-term outcomes) justify the costs incurred?
- What factors contributed to implementation efficiency?
- How did the project financial management processes and procedures affect project efficiency?

### **3.4. Impact**

- To what extent have the goal and medium-term outcomes been achieved and what other higher order changes - expected or unexpected, positive or negative - have come about? (See Annex, note that Equality Now will provide data on the medium-term outcomes indicators)
- Which of those changes did the project contribute to and how?

### **3.5. Sustainability**

- To what extent are the positive changes which the project brought about or contributed to likely to be sustained after the completion of this project?
- What are the principal risks that could undermine sustainability?

### **3.6. Learning and recommendations**

- What are the key lessons from the project?
- What actions should Equality Now and SOAWR take to maximise the gains from the project and maintain sustainability?

## **4. Methodology**

The range of issues to be studied requires a mixed methods approach incorporating quantitative and qualitative elements, desk-based research and interviews. In-so-far-as possible, the study should use participatory approaches. The consultants are not expected to conduct field work or make in-person visits to the partners or Equality Now unless they are located in the same country.

We expect the approach and design to:

- Be ethical and reasonable.
- Build continuous and ongoing analysis into the methodology.
- Be appropriate and relevant for the purpose.
- Analyse data in a systematic way that leads to convincing conclusions.
- Bring in the perspectives of different stakeholders.

- Present and explain conflicting findings and divergent perspectives in the analysis and conclusions.

Development of the final methodology and inception report will be agreed with staff of Equality Now based in Nairobi and the Monitoring, Evaluation, Knowledge and Information Manager based in the UK.

## **5. Deliverables and timeframe**

The study should produce the following deliverables:

- An inception report detailing a proposed methodology, the timeline and tools for data collection.
- A draft report. This should be clearly written, free of unnecessary jargon. The main body of the report should not exceed 40 pages. The consultant and Equality Now will agree on the report template as part of the inception report.
- The report should include a table of indicator values and summarised qualitative data as appropriate.
- A presentation of the draft report to Equality Now, SOAWR Steering Committee and the donor for feedback.
- A final report, with feedback integrated from Equality Now.
- Raw data should be provided as an Annex to the draft report.

The deadline for bids is May 23rd 2025, and it is expected that the contract will be awarded by the beginning of June at the latest. Collection and analysis of evidence should then be conducted by late June. It is envisaged that preliminary findings should be presented to and discussed with Equality Now. The final report must be submitted by July 31st, 2025, at the latest.

## **6. Payment Schedule**

- 30% of the agreed fee will be paid on approval of the inception report.
- 30% of the agreed fee plus expenses on submission of the draft evaluation report.
- 40% of the agreed fee on approval of the final evaluation report.

### **Expertise Required**

#### ***Essential***

- Proven experience conducting evaluations of projects and programmes, particularly in relation to human rights.
- Expertise in qualitative and quantitative evaluation methods for social programmes and projects.
- Understanding and experience in relation to women's rights and public policy, especially as regards legal reform and international agreements.
- Excellent written and spoken English.

#### ***Desirable***

- Understanding and experience of working with women's rights organisations and/or civil society movements.
- Fluent in French (written and spoken).

### **Submission of Proposals**

Interested consultants are requested to submit the following documents:

- A technical proposal comprising the evaluation design and methodology that will be used to meet the objectives and answer the research questions.
- Detailed timeline for the assignment.



- Financial proposal detailing all the expenses
- The CV or CVs of the persons involved in the assignment with their roles and responsibilities.
- A minimum of two examples of relevant written work.

Applications that do not include all the above will not be considered.

Proposals should be emailed to Raphael Ofware, [rofware@equalitynow.org](mailto:rofware@equalitynow.org) and Mike Clulow, [mclulow@equalitynow.org](mailto:mclulow@equalitynow.org) and be received by 6 PM EAT on May 23rd, 2025.

Please note that Equality Now will only be able to respond to short-listed candidates

## ANNEX

Goal - Ultimate Outcome	Medium Term Outcomes	Short Term Outcomes	Outputs <sup>1</sup>	Indicators	Means of verification	Activities
G. Women and girls in Africa fully enjoy their rights as provided for in the Maputo Protocol	M1. Greater number of countries targeted by the Initiative have ratified the protocol and/or lifted their reservations	S1. Enhanced capacity and strengthened collaboration of SOAWR Coalition for effective promotion of the ratification, domestication, and implementation of the Maputo Protocol.	O1. SOAWR regional clusters consolidated and with increased capacity to promote ratification, domestication and implementation of the Maputo Protocol (RD&I of MP)	O1.1. Number of SOAWR members from each cluster that participated in thematic forums.	Monitoring by SOAWR steering committee	A1.1. Hold thematic forums among SOAWR members to foster collaboration.
	M2. Greater domestication of the protocol by countries that have ratified <i>Note: domestication = harmonisation of national laws to comply with the provisions of the Protocol</i>			O1.2. Number of clusters that develop and implement agreed ways of working	Reports by regional cluster coordinators	A1.2. Regular meetings of clusters to develop and implement ways of working together including coalition management, sustainability and accountability
	M3. Increased implementation of the protocol in countries that have ratified		O2. Greater understanding and capacity of SOAWR members to promote RD&I of MP	O2.1 Number of SOAWR members trained on key areas of AMPI, including shadow / alternative reporting, engaging with regional & international bodies, multi-sectoral approach (MSA) to implementation, and funding.	Project / SOAWR records	A2.1. Capacity building on key areas of All for Maputo Protocol Initiative, including: shadow / alternative reporting on the rights of women and girls under the Maputo Protocol, engaging with regional & international bodies, communication advocacy & media engagement (also relates to O4), multi-sectoral approach (MSA) to implementation,

<sup>1</sup> Referred to as outcomes in AWDF documentation.

						and funding.
				O2.2. Regional strategy on lifting reservations finalised and distributed to membership	Project / SOAWR records	A2.2. Develop a regional strategy for lifting of reservations on the Maputo Protocol to inform national advocacy
			O3. SOAWR has greater capacity for effective collaboration with other CSOs for RD&I of the MP	O3.1 Number of CSOs that participate in training	Project / SOAWR records	A3.1. Training CSOs on MP and its RD&I
		S2. Governments of targeted countries recognize the importance of ratification, domestication, and implementation of the Maputo Protocol (MP).	O4. Governments and other national decision-makers have been reached through SOAWR advocacy and engagement on RD&I of MP	O4.1 Number of countries reached through ratification missions and advocacy visits	Project records and reports by cluster coordinators	A4.1. Ratification missions
				O4.2 Number of joint advocacy initiatives developed and implemented by SOAWR regional clusters	Project records and reports by cluster coordinators	A4.2. Advocacy visits to national decision-makers including parliamentary committees, and gender & justice ministries to call for domestication and

						implementation of MP
				O4.3 Number of regional clusters partnerships that engage with governments and other decision-makers on RD&I of MP	Project records and reports by cluster coordinators	A4.3. Partnerships to regional clusters to engage with governments and other decision-makers on RD&I of MP

#### AWDF Outcomes

	Outcome 2. Improved capacity of WROs and movements			2.2 Joint actions undertaken by women's rights organizations, women movements, networks, and alliances		
	Outcome 4. Improved laws and policies that advance women and girls rights			4.3 Extent to which policy commitments are acted upon		