



Call for Proposals to Develop Teaching Materials on Gender Issues for Post-graduate Gender Studies Program in Sub-Saharan Africa Higher Learning Institutions

I. Background

Several higher institutions across Africa have been running post graduate programs in gender studies; some of them have also initiated and integrated courses focusing on gender issues in their various undergraduate and graduate curricula. These studies have been instrumental in producing graduates specializing in gender studies and in enabling social science graduates acquire deeper knowledge of gender issues in contemporary social, political, and economic realities. In order to facilitate the learning-teaching process, many of the higher education institutions in the region have been purchasing text books from various sources and some of them were developing their teaching and reference materials.

OSSREA's preliminary assessment in 12 higher learning institutions across eastern and southern Africa, however, revealed that most of these institutions lack standardised textbooks, teaching materials and reference books. Instructors in the institutions often develop inadequate course materials on gender issues by scavenging limited resources available on the webs. Even those institutions which follow standard textbooks and teaching materials often fail to regularly update and make them in tune with African realities by using African based case studies. Moreover, there is absence or limited utilisation of the available resources on gender issues developed by various international and regional research, training, and think-tank institutions. The assessment also shows that almost all higher learning institutions predominantly rely on materials developed in and devoted to the context of the western world.

Cognizant of the above challenges, OSSREA has initiated a project that aims at developing teaching modules or textbooks and reference materials for graduate level studies, especially for MA programs on gender studies in higher learning institutions of sub-Saharan Africa. The project will primarily involve assessment of the available teaching textbooks, references and other course

materials from various higher learning institutions and training centres in Africa. Based on the findings, the project will finally develop teaching or reference manuals which address the common gaps identified in the preliminary study and incorporate Africa wide resource materials, research findings, case studies, and statistics from sampled African countries.

OSSREA would like to invite interested individuals to engage in the project. The project envisages having a team of experts on gender issues, curriculum development, and similar areas of specialisations within the social sciences.

II. Possible topics for teaching materials:

OSSREA's preliminary assessment shows that teaching materials available in many of the universities do not cover many pertinent topics; and invites applicants to focus on the following gender issues:

- **Gender, poverty, food security and nutrition:** discussion on gender differences on the causes, extent and experience of poverty; gender concerns in food production; gender and availability and access to food; gender and food security interventions; gender issues and nutritional status and interventions, etc
- **Gender and Climate change:** focusing, among other things, on gender-sensitive responses to climate change; gender inequality/equality in climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies, gendered impacts of climate change-related disasters (energy poverty, water scarcity, health hazards, climate-induced migration and conflict); gender-aware climate change responses (policies, strategies and programs at national, regional, continental and international levels)
- **Gender in political arena:** addressing issues of national, regional, continental and international legal framework on gender equity, equality and protection of women rights; gender in parliament, government, legislative processes (progress and impacts); gender and elections; gender and human rights; gender and conflict, peace, security; etc.

OSSREA invites applicants to develop teaching materials on only one of the above topics. Applicants are not allowed to apply for more than one topic. In addition to the theoretical and conceptual issues, authors are required to produce teaching materials that include country specific case studies, as well as regional and sectoral comparative studies in Africa.

III. Teaching material proposal format:

OSSREA prefers that each proposal for the teaching manual incorporates the following sections:

- Introduction and background on the topic
Introduction, motivation for developing the teaching material, basic reasons for selecting the topics included in the teaching material, general descriptions of the

module, target audiences, prerequisites, learner program outcome, and possible countries where the teaching material will be used (500 words)

► Objectives and lessons overview

Provide Overview: Describe for each topic major issues to be discussed, goals, lesson plans, learning activities, estimated duration in hours for each topic – 300 words for each topic :

- Topic 1, Topic 2, Topic 3, Topic 4, Topic 5, Etc.

► Tasks and estimated time

Schedules of activities - data collection from secondary materials; write up of the training manual as well as guides for trainers and trainees; etc

► Reference materials /handouts

List of tentative references for each topic - at least 10 reference materials for each topic

► Case studies and exercises

► Recommendations section on a) mechanisms of assessing and integrating local and regional research findings, case studies, and basic gender statistics on gender issues in Africa; b) utilising ICT technology in accessing and disseminating teaching and related course materials on gender issues in African higher learning institutions.

► Budget

Costs related to photocopy, internet, transportation, assistants, honorarium, - no fieldwork expenditures to be included as development of the teaching material will be based on secondary sources

The author/s is however encouraged to come up with a preferred structure of the module for each topic to be covered in the teaching or reference material.

IV. Eligibility Criteria:

- Applicants should be holders of PhD. in gender studies or related social science field and at least five years of experience in teaching and research OR should have masters degree in gender studies or related social science fields and at least ten years of experience in teaching and research;
- Applicants with good track record of publications on gender issues in Africa and with experiences in developing teaching or reference manuals will be given priority;
- Applicants that form a team from various disciplines and/or from different African countries are strongly encouraged;
- Female applicants are highly encouraged; and
- Applicants who are currently involved on ongoing OSSREA funded projects or who have applied for other call for abstracts/proposals of OSSREA in 2011/2 are not advised to apply.

V. Applicants are required to submit the following:

- ▶ Current curriculum vitae of the applicant(s), including age, gender, educational level, nationality, and a detailed address (P. O. Box, Phone, Fax & E-mail).
- ▶ Evidence of previous experience in research/teaching/developing teaching manuals particularly on gender issues.
- ▶ Detailed proposal reflecting the objectives, content, methodology and output, especially in relation to the issue mentioned in sections II & III; work schedule and budget for undertaking the assignment

VI. Incentives for resource persons or authors:

- ▶ OSSREA will pay the resource person or team of resource persons for developing a comprehensive teaching manual a lump sum of US\$ 6,000.00 (US\$ six thousand). Payment will only be done upon the successful completion of the assignment. The accepted material will be edited and published in a book.

VII. Deadlines:

- ▶ Applications should be submitted to OSSREA by e-mail **11 May 2011**
- ▶ The assignment will commence after contract is signed between OSSREA and the author(s) and is expected to be finalised within six months.

Completed applications and inquiries should be addressed to:

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