

## TERMS OF REFERENCE

**Number:** TT-T1112

**Project Title:** Digital Innovations for Sustainable Environmental and Economic Recovery in Trinidad and Tobago

**Job Title:** Mission-Oriented Innovation Consultant

- 1. Background and Justification:** Digital innovations hold great potential for supporting the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago (GORTT) in its sustainable development goals (SDGs) to drive positive environmental and social outcomes. Recognizing that economic recovery and resilience depends on innovation and collaboration; the role of innovation policy becomes extremely relevant and important to addressing complex and pressing technological, social and environmental challenges. Mission oriented programs and policies offer a solution. Mission oriented<sup>1</sup> innovation (MOI) policies are policies that direct investment in innovation towards solving prioritized challenges. It emphasizes the role of the public sector in giving 'direction' to economic growth and innovation such as the mission-oriented goal set by the American Government to land on the moon or the role that the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA)<sup>2</sup> played in the IT revolution. A mission-oriented approach to innovation policy is a powerful systemic policy initiative that combines demand-side with supply-side instruments and thus enables the public sector to promote the development of specific technologies that are shaping the modern economy and contributing to addressing societal challenges (Mazzucato, 2017). In a two-year project, the IDB led research that assessed the level of institutional capacity to implement MOI policies in Chile, Colombia, and Mexico. There is great potential to apply this methodology in Trinidad and Tobago in areas such as tackling health challenges, renewable energy, climate change commitments, addressing violence and crime amongst youth etc.
- 2. Objective.** The objective of this consultancy is to support the design of a mission-oriented innovation (MOI) pilot intervention to be implemented by a national agency to stimulate research and digital innovations that address a major societal and/or environmental challenge. A project steering committee<sup>3</sup> has been established to provide guidance and support the consultancy.

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<sup>1</sup> Mazzucato, Mariana and Penna, Caetano. 2020. The Age of Mission: Addressing Societal Challenges Through Mission-Oriented Innovation Policies in Latin America and the Caribbean. IDB. <https://publications.iadb.org/publications/english/document/The-Age-of-Missions-Addressing-Societal-Challenges-Through-Mission-Oriented-Innovation-Policies-in-Latin-America-and-the-Caribbean.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> DARPA, a US Government funded agency, developed and advanced the concept of the ARPANET which led to the internet.

<sup>3</sup> The Steering Committee is comprised of representatives of the following entities: - Ministry of Digital Transformation; University of Trinidad and Tobago; National Institute for Higher Education, Research, Science and Technology (NIHERST); Ministry of Planning; The University of the West Indies and Caribbean Industrial Research Institute (CARIRI).

### 3. Scope of Services

#### Key Activities:

- **Inception Meeting:**
  - Attend a project kick-off meeting to discuss project objectives, approach, expected outputs, outcome and any other issues related to the execution of the consultancy.
  - Identification of key actors and stakeholders that must be involved in the project.
  - The consultant will be guided by the project steering committee in the identification and selection of the MOI pilot.
- **Design Specifications for the Mission-Oriented Innovation Pilot Intervention:** Produce design specifications for the mission-oriented innovation pilot program.
  - Based on discussions with the project steering committee and relevant national Ministries and/or agencies, propose a participatory method for selecting one pilot intervention in Trinidad and Tobago. Criteria should include, but not be limited to, linkage to digital innovation/digital transformation, capabilities of the agency to implement the pilot, financial resources immediately available to implement, linkages to SDG and NDC commitments, etc.
  - Design the specifications (operations manual) for the MOI pilot including: (i) identifying the implementing agency with the capacity to execute the pilot; (ii) best practices and lessons learned from successful experiences; (iii) success factors including identification and description of the target indicators for the pilot (outcome and output levels); (iv) governance mechanism for administering and managing the programs including public-private collaboration and decision making; (v) optimal size of the program; (vi) management and performance fees and operational costs; (vii) strategies for measuring progress (monitoring and evaluation); (viii) appropriate incentive structure; (ix) risks and risk mitigation measures; and (x) budget to implement the pilot.
- **Training Workshops**
  - Design and execute at least two virtual training workshops. Training should be recorded and posted online for future reference.
    - The first workshop will introduce mission-oriented innovation with case studies of at least three comparable countries that have implemented similar MOI instruments including procedures, incentives and success factors.
    - The second workshop will present the methodology for the implementation of a specific MOI pilot intervention related to digital innovation.

### 4. Consultant's Reporting Obligations / Deliverables

#### Expected Deliverables:

The expected outcomes and products under this assignment are the following:

- i. **Deliverable 1** – Work Plan and Methodology. The work plan should include a synopsis and understanding of the consultancy, proposed activities, timelines, responsibilities, methodology and expected outputs. It is expected that the work plan will be updated as necessary.
- ii. **Deliverable 2** – Delivery of the introductory training workshop with the presentation of case studies and Draft Design Specifications of the MOI pilot intervention.
- iii. **Deliverable 3** – Delivery of the second training workshop and training materials.
- iv. **Deliverable 4** – Final design specifications for the MOI pilot (operations manual).

- v. **Deliverable 5** – Final report on the outcomes of the MOI pilot based on consultations with relevant agency(ies) . The final report must include recommendations on next steps for expanding the pilot.

### Reporting Requirements

\*Every report must be submitted to The UWI in an electronic file. The report should include cover, main document, and all annexes. Zip files will not be accepted as final reports.

\*Consultations are expected to be led by the consultant with coordination support from The UWI and IDB.

### Schedule of Payments:

Payment terms will be based on The UWI's acceptance of project deliverables submitted.

<b>Payment Schedule</b>	
<i>Deliverable</i>	<b>%</b>
1. Deliverable 1	10%
2. Deliverable 2	25%
3. Deliverable 3	25%
4. Deliverable 4	30%
5. Deliverable 5	10%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100%</b>

### 5. Qualifications and Experience:

#### Education:

- Master's degree in Economics, Technology, Business Administration or a related field.

#### Experience:

- 15 years experience in innovation policy and program design.
- Experience working in developing countries
- Experience in the design of mission-oriented innovation programs

#### Languages:

- Fluency in oral and written English.

#### Core and Technical Competencies:

- Strong expertise in the design of innovation policy instruments and programs, with specific experience in developing missions in developing countries.
- Highly developed communication and writing skills as evidenced by presentations and publicly available reports, blogs, articles, and/or academic pieces.
- Strong inter-personal relations skills. Pro-active in seeking information, managing relationships with stakeholders, including building trust and promoting partnership.
- Ability to manage client expectations, negotiate around project execution challenges, and identify possible solutions.

- A working understanding of guidelines and procedures typically used by development banks. Ideally, track record of drafting operating manuals in the context of projects financed by such institutions, actual work experience in the execution of multilateral projects.
- The ability to work independently and manage multiple tasks effectively. Excellent written and oral communication skills are required, including the ability to synthesize key issues and draw lessons learned.

#### **6. Characteristics of the Consultancy:**

- **Type of consultancy:** Individual
- **Length of contract:** Nine (9) months
- **Expected start date:** May 2024
- **Location:** Consultant's Place of Work.
- **Responsible person:** The technical and administrative responsibilities of this consultancy will be coordinated by The UWI.
- **Requirements:** You must be a citizen of one of the IDB's 48 member countries.
- **Contact:** Lauren.Boodhoo@sta.uwi.edu