Clean energy agency tipped on funding

By Edward Kayiwa

The Government has asked the Uganda National Alliance on Clean Cooking (UNACC) to find means of sustainably funding their own programmes, instead of relying on donor aid, which could jeopardise their activities if cut unexpectedly.

UNACC is the umbrella organisation that brings together clean cooking energy actors, including the Government, manufacturers, traders and scientists across the country and has approximately 150 members.

Dependency on donors

According to the commissioner for renewable energy, John Tumuhimbise, there is deficiency in financing of the association's activities, which constrains its agenda of promoting clean cooking.



Charcoal is one of the most widely used source of energy in rural areas

He said more than 18,000 people in Uganda, mostly women and children, die every year due to suffocation from solid fuels, which must be fought through advocacy for clean cooking solutions.

"The cause of the organisation is crucial for the health of our people, but what will happen to it if the donors decide to pull their funding? How will it survive? Therefore, they must find non-traditional ways of funding the activities of the association," he said on the sidelines of the association's annual general meeting at Hotel Africana, Kampala on Wednesday.

More than 96% of the rural population in Uganda relies on solid biomass for cooking

Biomass usage

Clean cooking solutions include clean cookstove technologies, fuels, equipment and practices that address the health and environmental impacts associated with traditional solid fuel cookstoves.

Solid biomass, on the other hand, is a source of energy from materials including wood, sawdust and crop waste, which can be used directly or processed into briquettes and charcoal.

According to UNACC, Uganda's dependency on solid biomass for cooking stands at more than 90%, leading to adverse effects on human health. Tumuhimbise advised the association to start offering consultancy services on clean cooking, tendering and increasing the number of subscribed members.

It should be noted that although the association's list of members reads more than 100, only nine are paid up members as of December, which has constrained planning and activities of the association.

He said although the Government will continue to support the association in the small to medium term, they, too, must put in efforts to run the association profitably and sustainably.

Tumuhimbise noted that although Uganda is endowed with considerable natural forest cover, more than 96% of the rural population, which constitutes 60% of Uganda's 41 million people, relies on solid biomass for cooking.

Intensified efforts

Three months ago, the Government formed an inter-ministerial council to engage its ministries, departments and agencies (MDAs) on reducing excessive use of solid biomass resources.

The council was also expected to mainstream standards, guidelines and legislation pertaining to clean cooking, as well as co-ordinate public awareness campaigns for clean cooking.

Alfred Kusiima, the association's co-ordinator, said they are increasing efforts in designing appropriate services to satisfy members expectations and intensify awareness.

He said the association is also creating linkages with foreign clean cooking associations for exchange of technology and creating opportunities for business-to-business encounters to give Ugandan entrepreneurs a wider market scope.

"Improvement in technology and better business organisation will also increase access to credit, widen access to markets and demand and create a value chain. We are also adopting a business model that will ensure that we embrace consultancy services and other income-generating activities, as well as ensuring that members subscribe," Kusiima said.

In its Vision 2040, the Government intends to make clean energy a substantial part of the national energy consumption, with increased consumption of more than 50% by the year 2017.

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UGANDA RETIREMENT BENEFITS REGULATORY AUTHORITY

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GENERAL ABDRIDGED BID NOTICE UNDER OPEN DOMESTIC BIDDNG

1. **Uganda Retirement Benefits Regulatory Authority** has two bid/tender opportunities as detailed below;

S/NO	SUBJECT OF PROCUREMENT	BID SECURITY AMOUNT
1	*Supply of three (3) Station Wagon Motor Vehicles*	*UGX 5,000,000/=*
2	*Pre-qualification for various Supplies, Works and Services*	*Not Applicable*

2. The Entity invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the provision of the above supplies.

3. Bidding will be conducted in accordance with the **Open Domestic Bidding** method contained in the Public Procurement and Disposal of Public Assets Act, 2003, and is open to all bidders.

4. The Bidding documents in English may be purchased by interested bidders by paying of a non-refundable fee of **UGX 100,000/= (Uganda Shillings One hundred thousand shillings only)** The method of payment will be by depositing in to bellow's bank account details.
   Account Name: **Uganda Retirement Benefits Regulatory Authority**
   Account Number: **0121310117300**
   Bank: **Housing Finance bank**

5. All Bids must be delivered to the address below at 8(c) at or before **10.00am of 19th January 2018.** All bids for supply of three motor vehicles **MUST** be accompanied by a bid security of **UGX 5,000,000/=.** Bid securities must be valid until **30th June 2018** Late bids shall be rejected. Bids will be opened in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend at the address below at 8(d) at **11.00am on 19th January 2018.**

5. There shall be no pre – bid meeting

7. (a) Documents may be inspected at: **5th Floor, Plot 01 Clement Hill Road, URBRA Offices**
   (b) Documents will be issued from: **5th Floor, Plot 01 Clement Hill Road, URBRA Offices**
   (c) Bids must be delivered to: **5th Floor, Plot 01 Clement Hill Road, URBRA Offices**
   (d) Address of bid opening: **5th Floor, Plot 01 Clement Hill Road, URBRA Offices**

3. **The** Details of the various Pre-qualification requirements of Supplies, Works and Services and detailed bid notice are available at the Entity's notice board and website at **www.urbra.go.ug** and at **www.ppda.go.ug**

9. The planned procurement schedule (subject to changes) is as follows:

Activity	Date
a. Publish bid notice	11/12/2017
b. Bid closing date and Opening	18/01/2018
c. Evaluation process	31st Jan 2018
d. Contracts Committee Approval	9th Feb. 2018
e. Display and communication of best evaluated bidder notice	19th Feb 2018
f. Perusal and Clearance by solicitor General	28th Feb. 2018
g. Contract signature	28th Feb 2018

David N. Bonyi
Chief Executive Officer
Uganda Retirement Benefits Regulatory Authority

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SKILLS DEVELOPMENT FACILITY (SDF)
CREDIT NUMBER: CREDIT NO: 56120-UG

CLARIFICATION TO THE REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR THE DESIGN, DEVELOPMENT, INSTALLATION IMPLEMENTATION AND TRAINING OF A COMPLETE GRANT MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM (GMS) ENCOMPASSING ALL SDF PROJECT ACTIVITIES AND RELATED REPORTING PROCESSES.

REFERENCE NO. PSF/SDF/CONS/17-18/00026

Reference is made to the request for expression of interest for consultancy firm to undertake design, development, installation implementation and training of a complete grant management information system (GMS) encompassing all SDF project activities and related reporting processes published in the *New Vision* of **Thursday, 30th November 2017**, the Skills Development Facility Website; **www.sdfuganda.org** and the Private Sector Foundation Uganda Website **www.psfuganda.org .**

This is to inform all prospective Bidders of the change in the short-listing criteria is: (1) At least five (5) years of experience in related field (2) Evidence of their capability to provide a GMS by providing their experience in at least three similar assignments from reference client sites having a GMS of similar magnitude/value and resources, (3) availability of appropriate skills/expertise among the consultant's staff including Team Leader/Information System Analyst: Qualification; Master's Degree in IT or related field with over 10 years of working experience, System and Database Developer: Qualification; Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science/ Information Technology or related field with 5 years of working experience, Data Quality Specialist: Qualification; Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science, IT, Economics, or Statistics with five (5) years` working experience and Geo Visualisation and Infographics Specialist; Master in IT, Geo Information Scheme& Technology or related field with 5 years Working experience.

Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below in person by **Thursday, 14th December 2017 at 5:00pm.** The other details of the advert remain unchanged.

Skills Development Facility
Private Sector Foundation Uganda - Main Building
Plot 43, Nakasero Road, KAMPALA
Telephone: +256 312 263 850
Website: www.psfuganda.org / www.sdfuganda.org

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