

SCM /Tender Ref #:	RFP 01 - 2024/25
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Request for proposals for:	Mid-term Implementation Evaluation for the National Youth Policy (NYP) 2020 – 2030
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1. BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

- 1.1 The National Youth Policy (NYP) 2020-2030 or NYP2030 in short, was adopted by Cabinet in 2020, and outlines a comprehensive framework aimed at addressing the diverse challenges faced by the youth in South Africa. The NYP 2030 is being implemented over a ten-year period, concluding in 2030. To ensure effective implementation, the NYP 2030 Monitoring and Evaluation Framework and the Integrated Youth Development Strategy (IYDS) were subsequently developed, providing a structured approach to the implementation as well as monitoring and evaluation of the policy. In pursuit of continuous effective implementation of the NYP 2030, the Department of Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities (DWYPD) is undertaking the Mid-Term Implementation Evaluation of the National Youth Policy to assess the first 5 years of implementation.
- 1.2 From a macro-policy perspective, the NYP presents a statement of intent on youth development outcomes required to ensure positive youth development in South Africa. The document finds its roots in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's), the African Youth Charter, and South Africa's National Development Plan (NDP) – Vision 2030. The NYP 2030 directly contributes to attainment of the NDP's objectives, and it is also in line with the DWYPD's mandate of leading on socio-economic transformation and implementation for empowerment and participation of women, youth and persons with disabilities through mainstreaming, advocacy, monitoring and evaluation. This mandate clearly guides all the stakeholders, as the implementing agents, on areas of priority that have to be implemented with regard to youth development and aims to ensure that youth development is prioritised and mainstreamed across the public, civil society, and private sectors.
- 1.3 The evaluation will assess progress made on implementation of the youth policy and track the extent to which the objectives of NYP 2030 were achieved or not achieved. The evaluation will further assess the gaps in as well as the relevance and comprehensiveness of the theory of change stipulated in the M&E Framework. The study should then highlight the findings and propose recommendations that will inform the development of an improvement plan to close the identified gaps.

2. PROBLEM STATEMENT / PURPOSE

- 2.1 The challenges facing youth in South Africa are diverse and complex. Some of those challenges include high levels of unemployment, limited access to quality education and training, substance abuse, poor physical and mental healthcare, high poverty rate, crime, gender-based violence, teenage pregnancies, and HIV and AIDS that

disproportionately affect young people. In addition, there is a diminishing civic engagement and political participation by youth.

2.2 Addressing these issues requires a multifaceted approach that involves interventions, community engagement, and collaboration between government and various stakeholders across sectors in all spheres of society. The aim should be to create a supportive environment for youth development service providers and to respond effectively to the needs of young people. Five years on, it is imperative to assess the extent to which progress has been made in responding to young people's needs by evaluating the youth policy implementation.

2.3 It is important to conduct mid-term evaluation as it would assess the continued relevance of the policy and then highlight progress made towards achieving its planned objectives. It would also provide an opportunity to make modifications to ensure achievement of the set objectives within the lifetime of the policy. In addition, the evaluation would ascertain whether the policy is still aligned with the strategic objectives of the Government, seeing that the Government of National Unity is now in place, with an adopted Programme of Action. The continued relevance and usefulness of the NYP2030 in this changed environment is important.

3. OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE OF PROJECT

3.1 The objectives of the mid-term evaluation are to:

- a) Identify the achievements in the policy implementation.
- b) Assess the effectiveness of the programmes and projects implemented based on youth policy priorities;
- c) Document the best practices and lessons learned;
- d) Identify the challenges encountered during the implementation process;
- e) Gather feedback from stakeholders, youth organizations, and the youth target population on their perspectives and experiences, as implementing agents or service recipients;
- f) Recommend on adjustments and or improvements to enhance the policy's outcomes during the remaining implementation period;
- g) Measure the policy's alignment with current realities and emerging issues affecting the youth in South Africa.

3.2 Overall, the mid-term evaluation serves as a crucial tool for monitoring, learning, and strengthening the National Youth Policy 2030, to better meet the needs and aspirations of the youth population in South Africa.

4. PROPOSED METHODOLOGY / APPROACH

4.1 It is envisaged that the evaluation exercise will employ both quantitative and qualitative research methods. A participatory methodology whereby all key stakeholders in government, civil society and private sector would be employed because the policy requires an all-of-society approach. The following evaluation questions should be considered:

- a) To what extent has the implementation of the National Youth Policy achieved its intended

goals and objectives?

- b) What are the key challenges faced during the implementation of the National Youth Policy and how have they been addressed?
- c) How has the National Youth informed development of existing youth programmes and projects at national, provincial and local levels?
- d) What are the perspectives of youth development service providers on the implementation of the National Youth Policy for the past 5 years?
- e) What are the youths perspectives on the on the implementation of the National Youth Policy for the past 5 years?
- f) How has the monitoring and evaluation framework contributed to assessing the effectiveness and efficiency of the National Youth Policy implementation?
- g) What are the proposed adjustments or improvements to be made to enhance the youth policy's outcomes and its implementation to the remaining period?

4.2 The methodology should include amongst others, the following:

4.2.1 Literature review

4.2.1.1 The evaluation will collect data through both primary and secondary data sources. Secondary data will involve desktop assessment of the available literature and reports; and primary data will include interface with relevant officials as well as field study in provinces or municipalities. A database/ methodology for tracking progress of all NYP 2030 indicators would be developed. This would include an in-depth document analysis on all NYP 2030 implementation reports, a brief description of youth programmes that respond to each of the five National Youth Policy pillars implemented since 2020, including its purpose, performance, size in terms of budget and footprint (+- 1 page per programme). The output would be a database of all youth interventions offered by the South African Government that ensure achievement of the youth policy pillars. An in-depth analysis of the youth development interventions will help to determine any overlaps, gaps and the effectiveness and efficiency and the extent to which they contribute to achievement of the outcome and output statement of each pillar, as outlined in the M&E Framework.

4.2.2 Participatory Data Collection Methods

4.2.2.1 The service provider is expected to provide a proposed approach and methodology for the study. The evaluation should use a mixed methods approach, utilizing both qualitative and quantitative methods.

4.2.3 Snapshot Online Survey

4.2.3.1 Conduct an online survey with programme managers across all nine provinces and across the Departments/ other stakeholders who contribute to policy implementation.

4.2.4 Key informant interviews

4.2.4.1 Semi-structured interviews or focus groups to be conducted with key stakeholders, including youth, who are responsible for or benefit from the implementation of NYP 2030.

4.2.4.2 Case Studies

4.2.4.3 Service provider to compile a minimum 5 case studies (one case study per policy pillar) to outline good practices.

5 DELIVERABLES AND TIME FRAMES

The service provider will be expected to deliver on the following tasks:

- Develop and submit an inception report outlining work plan including literature review, methodology for tracking achievement of indicators, design/sampling, data collection plan and tools;
- Undertake an analysis of relevant available data, including secondary data, official documents and official statistics;
- Produce a database of all youth interventions (programmes or projects, etc.), offered by the South African Government, civil society and private sectors that ensure achievement of the youth policy pillars;
- Develop and finalize the evaluation plan and data collection tools;
- Undertake data collection;
- Undertake data analysis and report writing in narrative and graphic form;
- Keep records of all data collected for a period of 5 years.
- Present the findings for validation and enhancement and make the necessary amendments;
- Develop a comprehensive and summarized final report in both electronic form and in hard copy;
- Develop a final comprehensive presentation and summarized version; and
- Provide status reports and update the project plan on a weekly basis.

The evaluation study is expected to be conducted over a period of nine months (July 2024 to March 2025).

Description	Expected date	% of project (Payment)
Approved inception report and project plan	August 2024	10%
Approved literature review	September 2024	10%
Approved report structure, evaluation matrix, analytical framework, final data collection instruments and other tools	September 2024	15%
Primary Data collection Report and Case Studies	October–December 2024	20%
Draft full evaluation report with case studies and 1/5/25 summaries	February 2025	10%
Validation Workshop	February 2025	0%
Approval of final project report with management response and improvement plan. Report to incorporate Steering Committee and/or peer reviewer comments.	March 2025	25%
PowerPoint Presentation of the Report (full and summarised) and provision of all datasets, metadata and survey documentation (including interview transcripts).	March 2025	10%

6 PROJECT MANAGEMENT / REPORTING ARRANGEMENTS

6.1 The service provider will be supported by DWYPD and DPME during the implementation process. The Evaluation Steering Committee will oversee the approval of all milestones/ deliverables that the service provider will produce.

7 PEER REVIEW

7.1 Peer reviewers may be contracted to support the evaluation depending on availability of funds. Refer to the DPME Guideline on Peer Reviewers on DPME website for more details.

8 OTHER

- The successful bidder will be allocated a maximum of 270 days to complete the project.
- The approach and methodology must be in compliance with the Public Service Regulatory Framework. Prospective service providers must provide a detailed exposition of the procedure that they will use to execute the service. Prospective service providers may be invited to do a presentation of their proposal.
- It is expected of the service provider to provide personal resources, systems and capital equipment needed for effective and efficient delivery of the service.