



CALL FOR EXPERTS

The Union of African Traditional Sports and Games (UATSG) is seeking external experts to support the documentation and dissemination of African Traditional Sports and Games. This project is fully funded by UNESCO.

Terms of Reference

1. Organizational Context

The Union of African Traditional Sports and Games (UATSG) is an organization tasked with the responsibility for coordinating traditional sports in member states by African Ministers of Sports, Permanent Representatives to UNESCO and Senior Sports Officials present at the UNESCO Collective Consultation on the safeguarding and promotion of TSG in Istanbul, Turkey in 13th – 14th August 2018.

2. Background

Sport is an enabler for sustainable development and its growing contribution to development and peace through tolerance and respect is recognized by the United Nations (UN) in the era of Millennium Development Goals from 2000 to 2015 and now with Sustainable development Goals from 2015 to 2030. We recognize the growing contribution of sport to the realization of development and peace, in its promotion of tolerance and respect and the contributions it makes to the empowerment of women and of young people, individuals and communities as well as to health, education and social inclusion objectives.

At the regional level, sport is considered as a real leveller of development and a vector of peace that can contribute to the accomplishment of the 2063 Agenda of the African Union (AU) - **the Africa we want**. Aspiration 5 of **Agenda 2063 which foresees Africa through, and with a strong cultural identity, common heritage, shared values and ethics** led by the **Africa Union Sports Council** encourages us to aspire to promote sports development as a fundamental human right, defend sport development, advocate for funding for sport development and ensure that countries develop sport policies, programmes, systems and structures that contribute to social and community development across the populace.

These have all been emphasised through the outcomes of the Kazan Action Plan and priority areas it designed which were further echoed in the recommendations of the first Regional Meeting of African Ministers on the Implementation of the Kazan Action Plan in Africa, through decision arrived at in Antananarivo, Madagascar, from 10 to 13 September 2019 and re-echoed at the UATSG-UNESCO Ministerial webinar held from 16 -18 June 2021.

It is therefore important to further specify and endorse these recommendations and identify priorities for the Africa region, notably in TSG. This will help develop appropriate strategies for its promotion, mobilise stronger partnerships between the governments and to ensure its documentation and standardization.

It is also important to consult within a regional setting, bringing together Member States to discuss and agree on a framework for the documentation and standardization of TSGs and to provide a platform for the exchange, sharing of knowledge and capacity-building on TSG, to synergize our efforts to standardise, document, preserve, protect, promote, develop and disseminate them.

Standardization, documentation, and dissemination are key to ensure sustainability and continuity of TSGs. They however remain a major challenge within both research and policy maker for supporting evidence-based policy formulation and implementation in most African States.

3. Objective of the Committee

The overall objective of the Committee of Experts is to undertake a research to develop a report that documents TSGs in Africa and their contribution to reconciliation, social cohesion and peaceful coexistence, while also highlighting their economic value and that further provides recommendations of up to ten (10) African Traditional Sports and games that could be considered for standardization and further development. The report shall integrate more precisely:

- (i) the collation and review of data collected from 20 countries selected from across Africa on TSGs, including, but not limited to institutionalization of TSGs, policies, programmes, strategies, initiatives for their promotion. This should include also relevant background frameworks (when they exist), developed by the Africa Union Sport Council, as well as from regional bodies as ECOWAS, UEMOA, SADC, EAC, IGAD, etc.
- (ii) The analysis of selected TSGs in Africa, in line with criteria to be defined by the Committee of Expert, to provide a relevant snap shot of both traditional sports and games from different part of Africa, including documentation related to their practice, geographic location, expansion, existing variants (when applicable) socio-cultural values, including the intangible cultural heritage dimension and potential (contribution to social cohesion, reconciliation and peace), as well as the economic potential, and challenges related to their practice. Examples of some TSGs that have gain prominence, including documentation and standardization should be highlighted, e.g. traditional wrestling in Senegal, “Kwepena” in Uganda, Canoe racing in some countries in Central Africa, among others.
- (iii) From the documentation above, the Committee of Experts will also make clear recommendations of up to ten (10) TSGs that could be considered for a standardization and upscaling and indicate why, including proposals of clear unifying criteria for their standardization.
- (iv) Propose a roadmap including mapping of national, regional and continental events scheduled for 2022 - 2024 and festivals in Africa on TSGs that could offer platforms for further valorization and promotion.

The secretariat will provide administrative assistance to the committee.

4. Timeframe

This Committee is expected to commence work on the 15th June 2022 and should be completed by 30th September 2022. It is estimated that the committee will require approximately 60 days to complete the assignment.

5. Required Competencies/Experience/Qualifications

- Commitment to UATSG's values, vision, and mission
- Ability to work effectively in teams across multiple locations and organizations
- Excellent interpersonal, written and verbal communication skills
- Demonstrated ability to adapt and be flexible

Functional Competencies

- Excellent writing skills
- Excellent analytical and report-writing skills
- Good IT skills
- Organized and methodological
- Deadline-oriented and proactive
- Experiential training

Qualifications and Experience

- A minimum of master's degree at a recognized University education in PHE, Sports, Social Sciences or Arts – PHD an advantage
- Documented experience developing child and youth-focused, play-based life skills curricula
- Extensive experience as a life skills trainer/educator with sports experience an advantage
- Experience working with children and young people
- Experience working in complex partnership environments
- Experience working on African culture and Heritage at national, regional and/or global level

6. Management and Reporting Arrangements

The committee will present the draft report to The Secretary General of the UATSG who will share the same with UNESCO for a joint review before finalization, based on comments and recommendations to be shared back with the experts for inclusion and submission of a final draft.

Confidentiality:

All discussions and documents relating to this TOR will be treated as confidential by all.

7. Committee Composition

The Committee will comprise of 3 experts. They will be selected from amongst a pool of experts knowledgeable in the area of TSG and with track record and expertise demonstrated in this area through publications and other presentation and conferences.

Previous involvement in UNESCO and or UATSG work around TSG in Africa will be an asset.

Evaluation process

The evaluation process will be executed remotely and will involve individual evaluation of the applications received by UATSG and UNESCO, including through virtual/online meetings/interviews. All hired experts will be required to sign a declaration of no conflict of interest and a contract with UATSG who manages the open call process.

Important notice

Please note that your expression of interest to participate in the call as an expert is NOT binding in any way and does NOT automatically mean that you will be selected to participate. The final selection of experts will be considered at a later stage as it depends on the number of expressions of interest from experts.

Indicative timeline

The evaluation will be fully remote and will start early to mid-June 2022. The final selection phase will take place by the end of June 2022. Thereafter, successful candidates will be notified.

Payment

Experts will be reimbursed for their work at the end of the project which will last for 60 days. Exact amount will be stated in the contract document to be signed by successful applicants.

Expression of Interest

Please address your expression of interest to:

Chief Michael Shamsu Mustapha
Secretary General – UATSG
Freetown

Kindly forward via email all documents to uatsgsg@gmail.com no later than **25th June 2022** and include:

- Brief motivation letter
- your CV, and
- Names of 2 referees