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## **Journalists Reporting on Public Finance Management Call For Applications**

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**APPLICATION DEADLINE: FRIDAY, 19TH APRIL 2024**

### **About the International Budget Partnership Kenya (IBP Kenya)**

IBP Kenya is a Kenyan non-profit organization working to advance transparency, accountability, participation, and equity in national and county budgeting processes. The organization's work is focused on strengthening the impact of citizen and civil society advocacy on budget policies and outcomes at both levels of governance in Kenya. Through deep and sustained engagement, IBP Kenya provides support to build expertise and skills of civil society actors and citizens involved in budget advocacy.

### **Background information**

IBP Kenya has been actively operating in Kenya for over ten years. During this time, we have deeply engaged with journalists both at the national and county levels. These engagements have primarily focused on capacity building initiatives aimed at enhancing the skills and knowledge of journalists reporting on public finance issues. In addition, we have provided technical support to journalists to ensure that their stories on public finance are accurate and well informed before they are published.

In 2023, IBP Kenya launched the Journalists Learning Forum. The goal was to conduct a series of convenings between IBP Kenya and journalists across the country to learn and discuss Kenya's public finance space and how to best report on issues relating to it. The forum was informed by the numerous requests we periodically get to support individual journalists as they cover their stories. Based on this, we conducted a need assessment to evaluate the areas journalists required capacity building. The assessment enabled us to tailor the sessions based on the requirements of the journalists.

Recognizing the crucial role journalists play in raising awareness and public education, we intend to upscale our engagements with journalists both at the national and county level in a bid to build a network of journalists who have adequate skills and knowledge to report on Public Finance issues was evident.

### **The assignment**

So far, we have convened two learning sessions tied to budget implementation and formulation. Through the sessions we were able to unpack the two decisions and the role journalists can play to raise awareness and to report on budget related processes. To further build on what the journalists have been learning and to allow them to put into practice how they can report on Public Finance issues, IBP Kenya intends to support select journalists with both technical and financial resources to cover stories related to Public Finance.

## The journalists are required to:

Develop a detailed 1–4 page proposal that highlights;

- **A Public Finance Management (PFM) issue that will be the main focus of your story.**
  - This section should seek to provide a description or outline of a story or topic you wish to cover. Some questions you may want to answer include: What is the story you wish to report on? How does the story relate to public finance? Is the topic an emerging issue? Why do you wish to report on this particular issue? Who is this story relevant to (audience)?
- **The methodology to use in developing the story.**
  - Briefly describe the process through which you intend to produce the story as described above. How will you cover the story? What methods will you use e.g. interviews, desktop research? What mediums do you intend to use e.g. videos, audio, narrative?
- **The Publishing Plan.**
  - Provide details on where the story will be aired/published, the potential reach and a catalogue of stories you've covered previously. Applicants who've covered any stories related to PFM are encouraged to include the stories in their catalogue.
  - Once the story is completed, how do you intend to publish it? What forms of media do you wish to publish it through e.g. digital, TV, radio, newspaper? What is the potential reach of these mediums?
- **The financial resources required to publish the story.**
  - Provide a rough estimate of the costs related to this assignment. Consider costs related to transport, internet connection, your time investment, publishing among other related costs.
- **The additional support needed from IBP Kenya.**
  - Beyond the financial support, IBP Kenya will be providing technical support to the applicants over the course of the grant period. In this section briefly highlight some of the areas that you foresee that you may need technical help from IBP Kenya.

## Eligibility criteria

This opportunity is open to all journalists and especially journalists who cover PFM issues both at the county and national level in Kenya. The opportunity is open to freelance, digital, TV and radio journalists. The stories can be done in English, Kiswahili or vernacular languages.

## Expected Duration

The assignment will be spread out over a period of 1 month.

## Selection Process

IBP Kenya will select the applicant based on the following criteria:

- Qualifications and experience
- Proposed story and methodology
- Cost/Financial proposal
- Referees

## How To Apply

Please submit your comprehensive proposal as PDF or Word document with the email subject: JOURNALISTS PFM PROPOSAL to [infokenya@internationalbudget.org](mailto:infokenya@internationalbudget.org). Attach your CV and a cover letter or expression of interest.