REPUBLIC OF KENYA

MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS, CREATIVE ECONOMY AND SPORTS

STATE DEPARTMENT FOR YOUTH AFFAIRS & CREATIVE ECONOMY

NATIONAL YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES TOWARDS ADVANCEMENT (NYOTA) PROJECT

Project Reference: P179414

TERMS OF REFERENCE (TOR)

FOR

INDEPENDENT MONITORING AND VERIFICATION FIRM

June, 2026

Official Use Only

1.0 Background

The Government of Kenya, in partnership with the World Bank, is supporting youth employment in all counties of Kenya through the National Youth Opportunities Towards Advancement (NYOTA) Project. The Project Development Objective of NYOTA is to increase employment and earnings and promote savings for targeted youth at national scale. There are 2.4 million youth aged 18-29 among the poorest 40 percent of Kenyans who fulfil one or more of the eligibility criteria. Such youth face exclusion and are often unable to access government-sponsored employment opportunities. As such, the Project will cover approximately 35 percent of this pool.

The NYOTA Project is expected to reach 820,000 vulnerable youth across all 47 counties of Kenya, including refugees in Garissa and Turkana counties. The Project beneficiaries are youth aged 18-29, and up to 35 years for persons with disabilities (PWDs), with little or no education, who are unemployed or in vulnerable employment. The Project is anchored on the premise that better employment outcomes are realised when disadvantaged youth have access to more inclusive jobs with better earnings.

2.0 Project Description

The NYOTA Project aims to support better employment outcomes and improved savings through integrated interventions that address the range of constraints faced by youth. Component 1 of the Project focuses primarily on labour-supply-side constraints and offers knowledge transfer and skills development, in addition to intermediation-related initiatives. It also addresses childcare-related constraints for young mothers. Component 2 focuses on labour-demand-side constraints and facilitates youth who have an aptitude for entrepreneurship to develop core business skills. It also provides them with seed funding to start or expand their businesses. In addition, it supports social enterprises to provide similar support to hard-to-serve youth. Component 3 focuses on inculcating a savings culture among targeted youth, while Component 4 supports the strengthening of youth employment systems and Project management.

3.0 Institutional Arrangements

The Ministry of Youth Affairs, Creative Economy and Sports (MoYACES) is responsible for the overall implementation and supervision of the Project. In addition to coordinating the overall implementation of all components, it leads the implementation of Component 1. Further, under Component 1, the State Department of Labour and Skills Development (SDL&SD), the National Industrial Training Authority (NITA), and the National Employment Authority (NEA) implement the parts for which they have the mandate. The Micro and Small Enterprises Authority (MSEA) takes lead in implementing Component 2, while the National Social Security Fund (NSSF) spearheads Component 3. Under Component 4, the State Department for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise Development (SD-MSMED) is responsible for the development of the monitoring and evaluation (M&E) system for catalytic funds. MoYACES also works closely with the Department of Refugee Services (DRS) and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to support the effective inclusion of host communities and refugees in Project implementation in Garissa and Turkana counties.

4.0 Objective of Consultancy

The overall objective of the consultancy is to provide technical support to the Project Management Unit (PMU) in monitoring and verifying the accuracy of results reported by the Employer Organizations and other Service Providers using the verification protocols outlined in the Results-Based Financing (RBF) Design Manual. In undertaking the assignment, the Firm shall draw on the verification protocols set out in the RBF Design Manual and the relevant provisions of the On-the-Job Experience (OJE) Operational Manual as guiding frameworks. The Firm shall also be responsible for proposing the detailed verification methodology, sampling approach, verification tools, quality assurance procedures, and work plan for the Client's review and approval.

This is important in enabling the Results-Based Financing model to achieve its intended objective. By validating the achievement of results, verification will link payments to performance, hold Service Providers accountable, build trust among stakeholders, and ensure that resources are used effectively to drive measurable impact. The measurement

and reporting process will involve defining the specific methods that will be used to collect and document results reliably and consistently, and to standardise the interpretation of reported results.

5.0 Scope of Work

The Independent Monitoring and Verification Firm (the Firm) will be responsible for verifying, measuring, and reporting the services offered by Employer Organizations and other Service Providers during On-the-Job Experience (OJE) and the transition to post-OJE employment. Verification of outcomes will be carried out in line with the RBF Design Manual. Verification shall cover the full OJE results cycle, including placement into apprenticeship, retention during apprenticeship, and retention in employment for six months after apprenticeship. The verification approach shall follow the OJE implementation timelines, including placement confirmation at the start of OJE, regular spot checks during apprenticeship, and follow-up verification during employment retention. The indicative workload below is provided to give all firms a common basis for planning and pricing.

Estimated Assignment Scale

The figures below are planning estimates. Actual claim volumes may vary during implementation. Any material change beyond the stated assumptions shall be handled in accordance with the Contract.

Item	Indicative workload
Estimated beneficiary population from which verification claims may arise	90,000
Employer Organizations	3
Milestone 1 (Placement into apprenticeship verification runs) verification runs per year	up to 4 runs
Milestone 2 (Five-month apprenticeship retention verification) verification runs per year	up to 4 runs
Milestone 3 (Six-month post-apprenticeship employment retention verification) verification runs per year	up to 4 runs
Geographic coverage	47 Counties

For purposes of this indicative workload, a verification run means one complete verification cycle or claim batch for the relevant milestone. The milestones are described in detail in Section 7.0.

6.0 Roles and Responsibilities

The Firm will be expected to:

a) Prepare and submit an Inception Report setting out the overall verification methodology for all OJE result stages and bonus categories. The report shall include, at a minimum: (i) the proposed sampling approach; (ii) verification tools and templates; (iii) procedures for desk review, remote verification through phone, SMS or other approved digital channels, and field-based checks; (iv) a quality assurance and back-check framework; (v) a verification calendar and reporting schedule; and (vi) data handling and confidentiality procedures.

Minimum sampling and verification requirements

The methodology shall clearly show the population from which each sample is drawn, coverage by milestone, provider and county, the basis for selecting higher-risk claims, and how non-response and replacements will be handled. Each M1, M2 and M3 verification cycle shall include field verification unless the Client approves otherwise in writing. For remote verification, at least three contact attempts should be made on different days or at different times before a case is recorded as non-response. Where replacements are allowed, they shall follow the approved sampling rules and the original case shall remain recorded as non-response. Where material discrepancies are found, the Firm shall carry out additional checks or expand the sample as agreed with the Client.

The verification methodology shall combine review of Project system and administrative records with sample-based remote and field verification. The sample shall be statistically sound and risk-based, taking into account the milestone, Service Provider, county and other relevant risk factors. The approach shall provide a reasonable basis for determining the validity of claims submitted for payment.

The Inception Report shall set out how findings from sample verification will be applied in determining the verified results and payment eligibility for the affected claim batch. It shall also define the circumstances under which the sample will be expanded or a full review of the affected claim batch will be required.

b) Validate results submitted by the Employer Organizations and other Service Providers during placement in On-the-Job Experience (Apprenticeship) to confirm:

i. Beneficiary apprenticeship details, such as identity, location, placement information, and job description;
ii. Apprenticeship details, including the start date at the place of apprenticeship and tasks performed.

c) Validate the following, as provided by Employer Organizations and other Service Providers:

i. The apprenticeship completion report and beneficiary details against the National Industrial Training Authority (NITA) certification records.
ii. Lists of youth with disabilities against records of the National Council for Persons with Disabilities (NCPWD), or another authoritative source approved by the Client.
iii. Hardship county-related claims through review of beneficiary identity records, location records in the Project Management Information System (MIS), and supporting administrative data; remote follow-up where required; and field-based spot checks on a risk-based basis.

d) Conduct spot checks throughout the apprenticeship period in line with the Client-approved verification plan. The plan shall provide for routine monthly coverage and additional risk-based checks where previous results, data quality concerns, or other information indicate a higher risk. The spot checks shall confirm beneficiaries' attendance, identity, placement status, and progress. Specifically, the spot checks will seek to ascertain:

i. Beneficiary attendance records, including identity, apprenticeship placement, and regular attendance;
ii. Employer-provided details, such as the beneficiary's role, tasks, and progress during the apprenticeship.

e) Conduct follow-up checks during the six-month employment retention period at the points set out in the approved verification plan, including checks in the early and later stages of the retention period, to confirm:

i. Attendance records and retention status of beneficiaries;
ii. Authenticity of employment placements, including employer feedback.

f) Where a sexual exploitation and abuse or sexual harassment (SEA/SH) concern is disclosed or identified during verification, follow the Project-approved grievance and referral procedures. The Firm shall not investigate such cases unless specifically authorised to do so, shall protect confidentiality, and shall collect and share only the information required for referral.

g) Maintain independence throughout the assignment and disclose to the Client any actual, potential, or perceived conflict of interest, including any current or previous

relationship with a Service Provider, implementing entity, or other party whose results are being verified.

h) Protect beneficiary and provider information in line with the Data Protection Act, 2019, Project requirements, and the Contract. This shall include appropriate access controls, secure storage and transfer, breach reporting, and retention or disposal of data in line with approved requirements.

i) Maintain a complete audit trail for each verification decision and hand over all verification datasets, registers, reports, evidence logs, and analytical outputs to the Client in the agreed formats. Outputs produced specifically under this assignment shall be owned by the Client, subject to the Contract.

Responsibility matrix

The table below clarifies the main roles. Detailed working arrangements will be confirmed in the Inception Report.

Activity	Firm	PMU	MoYACES field officers
Prepare verification methodology, tools and sampling plan	Lead and submit for approval	Review and approve	Provide operational input where required
Provide claim data, MIS extracts and supporting records	Confirm receipt and completeness	Coordinate and provide approved data	Provide records and clarifications within their mandate
Desk, remote and field verification	Lead independent verification	Oversee and facilitate access	Undertake complementary checks or support access as directed
Resolve queries and provide additional evidence	Review additional evidence and update verification status	Coordinate query resolution	Provide clarification or evidence where applicable
Verification conclusion and payment eligibility summary	Prepare and submit	Review and make final validation decision	No payment approval role unless assigned under Project procedures
Dispute resolution and payment authorisation	Provide the verification record and technical clarification	Lead dispute resolution and the designated approval process	Support factual follow-up where requested

7.0 RBF Design / Payment Protocol

Under the RBF model, payments to Employer Organizations and other Service Providers covered by the results-based payment arrangement will be made only when specific results are achieved and validated. For these providers, the unit payment is KES 49,000 per apprentice/beneficiary and is released in tranches linked to the three results milestones below. Payments to Master Craftsmen (MCs) and beneficiaries under

informal-sector OJE are handled separately through the attendance-linked payment arrangements described in paragraph (e) below. The Firm shall verify all payment-linked milestones and applicable bonus categories under the OJE payment protocol: (i) placement into apprenticeship; (ii) retention in apprenticeship for five months; (iii) retention in paid employment for six months after apprenticeship; (iv) persons with disabilities completion bonus; (v) NITA assessment pass bonus; and (vi) hardship county top-up. "Hardship counties" means the counties approved by the Project for the hardship county incentive under the OJE payment protocol.

For this assignment, the NYOTA Project MIS and related administrative datasets shall be primary sources of verification evidence for placement, attendance, employment bookings, payment-related records, and audit-trail information. The Firm shall compare MIS records with supporting documents, remote verification, and field checks, as appropriate. Data extracts used for a verification cycle shall be dated or version-controlled so that the verification decision can be traced back to the records reviewed.

For payment purposes, verification shall combine administrative and system-based checks with sample-based remote and field verification in line with the approved methodology. Findings from the sample shall be used in determining the validity of the relevant claim batch in accordance with the approved verification approach. Where material discrepancies or integrity concerns are identified, additional verification, an expanded sample or a full review of the affected claim batch may be required.

a) Milestone 1: Placement into apprenticeship

The milestone is achieved when a beneficiary is placed into apprenticeship under the Service Provider. The Service Provider submits placement results and supporting documents. The Firm shall verify the submitted claims in accordance with the approved verification methodology. This shall include verification of an approved sample using phone calls, digital surveys, document review, field checks, or other approved methods. MoYACES officers may carry out complementary spot checks. Verification shall confirm beneficiary identity and placement details, including the employer or OJE provider, start date, and assigned tasks.

b) Milestone 2: Retention in apprenticeship

This milestone is measured by beneficiary retention in apprenticeship for five (5) months. Retention is verified using attendance and performance records submitted by the Service Provider, together with the approved supporting evidence. The Firm shall confirm beneficiary attendance, apprenticeship placement, and progress details. Results are treated as verified only where the required evidence is complete, accurate, and consistent with Project requirements.

c) Milestone 3: Retention in paid employment for six (6) months post-apprenticeship

This milestone covers retention in paid employment for six months after apprenticeship. Retention is assessed mainly through employer confirmation and supporting records submitted by the Service Provider. The Firm shall verify retention status and the authenticity of the employment placement, including employer feedback. MoYACES field officers may carry out complementary field checks and follow-up as directed by the Client. Final validation of payment eligibility shall remain the responsibility of the Client through the designated approval process.

d) Definition of verification results

Each claim shall be classified as: (i) Verified - the required evidence confirms that the result has been achieved; (ii) Queried - the available evidence is incomplete or inconsistent and further clarification or evidence is required before a decision can be made; or (iii) Unverified - the result cannot be confirmed, or material gaps remain after the allowed clarification process. Queried and unverified claims shall carry a clear reason code and remain in the verification record. Queried claims shall not be recommended for payment until they are resolved.

e) Attendance-linked payments for beneficiaries and informal sector OJE providers

For OJE in the informal sector, beneficiary stipend payments and Master Craftsmen payments are linked to electronic attendance rostering through the Project system. The system generates weekly attendance and payment lists, and stipend eligibility is subject

to an 80% weekly attendance threshold. The Firm shall review attendance-linked evidence generated through the Project system, including weekly rostering outputs, supporting attendance records, and related payment eligibility lists, and shall flag discrepancies requiring reconciliation by the Client.

f) Payment processing timelines and reconciliation

Payment lists generated through the Project system are forwarded to the PMU, approved through the designated internal workflow, and processed for payment. The Mobile Network Operator (MNO) shares payment transmission reports with the PMU for reconciliation. Verification reports, registers, evidence logs, and payment eligibility summaries shall be submitted in accordance with the deliverables and timelines in Section 8.0.

g) Material discrepancies, irregularities and suspected fraud

The Firm shall record and promptly report to the National Project Manager any material discrepancy, suspected fraud, or other serious irregularity identified during verification. The Firm shall preserve the relevant records and audit trail and shall not make final findings of fraud outside its verification mandate. Where the issue may affect other claims, the Firm shall recommend additional checks, an expanded sample, or full review of the affected claim batch. Further escalation shall follow the Project, Government of Kenya, World Bank, and Contract procedures. Verification records shall be retained for the period required under the Contract and applicable Project records-management requirements.

8.0 Deliverables and Payment Schedule

For purposes of this TOR, an M1, M2 or M3 run means one complete verification cycle or claim batch for the relevant milestone. The indicative number of runs to be used for planning and pricing shall be as stated in Section 5.0.

a. Deliverables and turnaround times

How the verification process will work: Service Providers will submit results and supporting records for the relevant payment milestone. The Firm will review the Project system and supporting records and undertake sample-based remote and field verification in line with the approved methodology. The findings will be used to determine the verification status and payment eligibility of the relevant claims. Where necessary, further verification will be undertaken before the Firm submits its findings and payment eligibility summary to the Project Management Unit. The Project Management Unit will review the verification results and retain responsibility for the final payment decision. A

verification-ready claim batch means that the Client has formally provided the claim data, required supporting records, and agreed system extracts needed for the Firm to start verification. The Firm shall notify the PMU promptly if a claim batch is incomplete. The turnaround period starts when the PMU confirms that the required information has been provided.

Deliverable / trigger	Minimum content	Timing and review	Acceptance / approval
Inception Report Trigger: contract commencement	Methodology; sampling plan; tools; verification calendar; quality assurance and back-check arrangements; data handling and security procedures.	Draft within 15 calendar days of contract start. PMU review within 5 calendar days. Final within 5 calendar days after consolidated comments.	Accepted when the methodology, tools, work plan and safeguards are complete and workable. Approved by the National Project Manager (NPM).
M1 Verification Package Trigger: receipt of a verification-ready M1 claim batch	Verified placement register; evidence register; payment eligibility summary by provider/county; exception and integrity flags where applicable.	Draft within 20 calendar days of the trigger. PMU review within 5 calendar days. Final within 5 calendar days after consolidated comments.	Accepted when approved coverage is completed, evidence is traceable, classifications and reason codes are clear, and required corrections are addressed. Approved by the NPM.
M2 Verification Package Trigger: receipt of a verification-ready M2 claim batch	Verified five-month retention register; attendance/retention summary; persons with disabilities completion bonus list; payment eligibility summary.	Draft within 20 calendar days of the trigger. PMU review within 5 calendar days. Final within 5 calendar days after consolidated comments.	Same acceptance standard as M1, including clear treatment of non-response and substitutions. Approved by the NPM.
M3 Verification Package Trigger: receipt of a verification-ready M3 claim batch	Verified six-month employment retention register; employer confirmation log; NITA pass bonus list; hardship county top-up list; payment eligibility summary.	Draft within 20 calendar days of the trigger. PMU review within 5 calendar days. Final within 5 calendar days after consolidated comments.	Same acceptance standard as M1/M2, including traceable employer confirmation and bonus eligibility evidence. Approved by the NPM.

b. Payment schedule for the Firm

The percentages below are payments to the Firm under this consultancy. They are separate from the Service Provider RBF percentages of 10%, 20%, and 70% described in Section 7.0. The annual allocations for M1, M2 and M3 assume the indicative number of runs in Section 5.0. If the Client requires additional runs beyond those assumptions, they shall be handled in accordance with the Contract and only with prior written approval.

No.	Payment milestone	% of annual contract value paid to the Firm	Deliverables required for payment	Frequency / timing
1	Mobilisation and set-up	15%	Inception Package: (i) verification methodology; (ii) annual verification work plan/calendar; (iii) sampling approach; (iv) validation tools and templates for milestone registers and payment eligibility summaries; (v) quality assurance/back-check procedures; (vi) discrepancy log template; and (vii) secure data handling protocol	Once at contract start (and refreshed at annual renewal where required)
2	Verification of RBF Milestone 1 - Placement into apprenticeship	20% total, paid per M1 run: 20% ÷ planned M1 runs	M1 Package: (i) M1 Verified Placement Register (verified/queried/unverified + reason codes); (ii) M1 Evidence Register with traceable references; (iii) M1 Service Provider Payment Eligibility Summary by provider/county (10% RBF milestone); and (iv) M1 exceptions/integrity flags note, where applicable	Each time an M1 verification package is completed and accepted
3	Verification of RBF Milestone 2 - Five-month apprenticeship retention and persons with disabilities completion bonus	25% total, paid per M2 run: 25% ÷ planned M2 runs	M2 Package: (i) M2 Verified Retention Register (five-month status + reason codes); (ii) retention/attendance verification summary (coverage, non-response, substitutions); (iii) persons with disabilities completion bonus verification list (eligible/ineligible + basis); and (iv) M2 Service Provider Payment Eligibility Summary (20% RBF milestone + bonus totals)	Each time an M2 verification package is completed and accepted
4	Verification of RBF Milestone 3 - Six-month employment retention, NITA pass bonus and hardship county top-up	40% total, paid per M3 run: 40% ÷ planned M3 runs	M3 Package: (i) M3 Verified Employment Retention Register (six-month status + employer confirmation status + reason codes); (ii) employer confirmation log (attempts/outcomes); (iii) NITA pass bonus verification list (eligible/ineligible + basis); (iv) hardship county top-up verification list (eligible/ineligible + basis); and (v) M3 Service Provider Payment Eligibility Summary (70% RBF milestone + bonus/top-up totals)	Each time an M3 verification package is completed and accepted

9.0 Payment Remedies and Withholding

a) The Client may withhold payment for any deliverable that is incomplete, inconsistent, unsupported by evidence, or does not meet agreed quality standards.

b) Where independent back-checks or Client audits identify material errors attributable to the Firm, the Client may require re-verification and resubmission at no additional cost, and may withhold payment until corrections are accepted.

c) Late submissions without written approval may attract deductions as provided for in the Contract and applicable Government of Kenya procurement provisions.

10.0 Minimum Qualifications

a) Legal recognition by the Government of Kenya, including, but not limited to, registration by relevant government institutions enabling the Firm to undertake the above-mentioned tasks;

b) Demonstrated seven (7) years' experience in independent verification, results-based financing, performance audit, monitoring and evaluation, social protection, labour market, skills development, youth employment, or other large-scale beneficiary programmes, preferably including experience in sub-Saharan Africa;

c) Proven track record of having undertaken at least two (2) assignments of a similar nature and complexity in the last five (5) years, including verification of results, payment-linked outputs, or large beneficiary datasets;

d) A consultancy profile that includes the organizational structure, clearly stating the duties assigned to each of the personnel identified to support the delivery of verification, measurement, and reporting;

e) Demonstrated technical and managerial capability to deliver the assignment;

f) Proven expertise in conducting data verification processes that involve beneficiary and employer engagement through various methods;

g) Demonstrated capability of managing verification activities across multiple metrics while ensuring accuracy and adherence to timelines;

h) Ability to cross-reference data from different sources to validate reported Project outcomes effectively;

i) Demonstrated flexibility in handling variable reporting periods and adjusting methodologies accordingly;

j) Demonstrated capacity to mobilise and complete verification and reporting within the turnaround periods set out in Section 8.0.

Bidders shall provide a staffing schedule showing the proposed person-days for each key expert and the field teams for inception and for each M1, M2 and M3 verification run. The

proposed staffing shall be sufficient to complete concurrent verification activities across the selected counties within the required timelines.

11.0 Qualifications of Key Staff

a) Team leader

i. Master's degree in Economics, Monitoring and Evaluation, Statistics, Public Policy, Development Studies, Project Management, Business Administration, Data Science, or another field relevant to the assignment;

ii. At least seven (7) years of relevant professional experience, including at least three (3) years in a team leadership or senior role on independent verification, results-based financing, performance audit, monitoring and evaluation, or similar assignments;

iii. Experience leading multi-disciplinary teams and large or multi-county verification assignments involving administrative data, field verification, and payment-linked results;

iv. Proven ability to lead multi-disciplinary teams, design and apply verification protocols, oversee quality assurance, and produce high-quality verification reports that support payment decisions.

b) Monitoring and Evaluation Expert

i. Master's degree (or equivalent) in Economics, Monitoring and Evaluation, Applied Statistics, Project Management, Social Science, Data Science, or a related field from a recognized institution.

ii. At least five (5) years of demonstrated experience in successfully conducting independent verification, monitoring and evaluation, audit, learning adaptation, assessments, data analysis, and implementation and/or management of projects within government institutions, non-governmental institutions, and/or international organizations.

iii. Strong understanding of data quality assurance and triangulation of administrative and field evidence across multiple metrics, preferably in large-scale youth, labour, or social protection programmes.

c) Data Manager

i. Bachelor's degree in Statistics, Computer Science, Data Science, Information Systems, or related field.

ii. At least five (5) years' experience in data management for large-scale field programmes.

iii. Proven experience setting up data pipelines, cleaning protocols, audit trails, and producing analysis-ready datasets.

iv. Proficiency in at least two of the following: Structured Query Language (SQL), Python, R, Stata, Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS), Power BI data modelling, or equivalent.

v. Strong understanding of data security, access control, and secure transfer.

d) Quality Assurance Lead

i. Bachelor's degree in M&E, Statistics, Social Sciences, or related field.

ii. At least five (5) years of experience implementing quality assurance systems for surveys, audits, or verification.

iii. Demonstrated experience running independent back-checks and field compliance audits.

iv. Ability to design quality assurance plans, train teams on quality requirements, and produce quality assurance findings reports.

e) Information and Communication Technology/Management Information System (ICT/MIS) Specialist

i. Bachelor's degree in Information Systems, Computer Science, Information and Communication Technology, or a related field.

ii. At least five (5) years of experience supporting digital data collection, device management, and secure data systems.

iii. Proven capacity to implement secure data transfer protocols, user access controls, and device configuration for field teams.

12.0 Client Obligations

The Client will provide the following support to the Firm:

a) Office space

b) All available relevant documentation, including the Project Appraisal Document, RBF Design Manual, OJE Operational Manual, approved verification protocols, periodic reports, the Project Manual, the approved hardship county list, and lists of contracted Employer Organizations and other Service Providers;

c) Introductory letters to key stakeholders.

d) Facilitate review and dissemination meetings with key stakeholders;

e) Facilitate liaison with other Project implementing partners;

f) Facilitate controlled access to the NYOTA Project MIS and relevant administrative datasets required for verification, subject to applicable confidentiality and security requirements;

g) Facilitate authorised access to, or provide approved extracts from, relevant NITA and NCPWD records and other authoritative datasets required for verification;

h) Retain responsibility for final validation and approval of payment eligibility following receipt and review of the Firm's verification outputs; and

i) Lead dispute resolution and escalation with Service Providers, including cases arising from queried, disputed, or unverified claims.

13.0 General Legal Compliance

The Firm shall comply with all applicable laws and regulations of the Republic of Kenya and shall perform the Contract in accordance with the World Bank Procurement Regulations for Investment Project Financing (IPF) Borrowers, Seventh Edition, September 2025; the World Bank Guidelines on Preventing and Combating Fraud and Corruption in Projects Financed by IBRD Loans and IDA Credits and Grants, dated July

1, 2016; and the applicable provisions of the Financing Agreement. In the event of any inconsistency, the applicable provisions of the Financing Agreement and the World Bank requirements shall prevail.

14.0 Reporting Arrangements

The Firm shall report technically and contractually to the National Project Manager (NPM). The Firm shall, when requested by the Client, provide a consolidated summary of verification results, outstanding queries, recurring discrepancies and other issues arising from completed verification cycles. All deliverables, milestone verification packages, and payment eligibility summaries shall be submitted to the NPM for review and approval.

15.0 Contract Duration

The initial contract period shall be twelve (12) months. The contract may be renewed in twelve-month periods, subject to satisfactory performance against agreed deliverables, continued need for the services, availability of funds, and compliance with quality and timeliness requirements. The contract shall not extend beyond the Project closing date of 31 December 2028, unless that date is formally extended and the Contract is amended in accordance with the applicable procurement and contract provisions.