

Announcement

FOR HIRING A MID TERM REVIEW CONSULTANT CRAFT PROJECT

1. Background to the CRAFT Project

In May 2018 the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs/DGIS awarded SNV (Netherlands Development Organization) the Climate Smart Agriculture East Africa (CSA-EA — now known as the '**Climate Resilient Agribusiness for Tomorrow (CRAFT)**')(CRAFT)) project to be implemented in Kenya, Tanzania, and Uganda (Activity #4000000819). This five-year (June 2018-May 2023) project, valued at approximately €36 million, is implemented by SNV in partnership with Wageningen University (WUR) and Wageningen Environmental Research (WEnR), CGIAR's Climate Change Agriculture and Food Security Programme (CCAFS), Agriterra, and Rabo Partnerships (RP). The project is expected to leverage at least €10 million in additional private sector investment.

The CRAFT project aims to achieve the following objectives: -

- Increasing production and income for 300,000 smallholder farmers (30% of which are youths and women) through adoption of Climate Smart Agriculture practices & technologies in arable crop production farming systems
- Improve business performance for 50 Agribusiness SMEs and 30 cooperatives (25% of which are managed by youths and women) through accelerating investments and business growth in selected value chains
- Promote Climate resilient and sustainable food production on 600,000 Ha by creating an enabling environment for scaling out Climate Smart Agriculture practices.

The project shall achieve its objectives by delivering the following:

- Promoting use of climate smart practices and technologies for farming systems and SMEs
- Promoting an enabling environment for development and scaling climate-smart technologies and practices
- Promoting (climate smart) investments in inclusive value chains
- Promoting learning and knowledge sharing
- Gender/youth inclusion.

The CRAFT project uses an inclusive Business Case development approach to making selected value chains more climate resilient, hereby focusing on the oil seeds, pulses, cereals, and potato value chains. This is intended to generate business and economic value, while at the same time addressing key environmental and social issues. The project will be implemented country wide where viable Business Cases shall be identified in the above-mentioned value chains

2. Purpose of the Review

The Mid-Term review will be carried out for the CRAFT consortium, led by SNV as lead implementing agency and will provide an advisory and possible curative action to all the CRAFT consortium partners and the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs (DGIS), the donor of the CRAFT project. CRAFT is a flagship program in climate adaptation and aims to inform the DGIS with the results on policy directions for the integration of climate change effects in private sector development/agriculture sector development programs.

The main objective of the MTR is to: -

To assess whether project strategies are appropriate and leading to the expected results. Validating project design and implementation approach being a climate flagship program.

The specific objectives of the MTR of CRAFT are:

- To identify project strategies that can be scaled in the existing value chains / replicated in other value chains
- To assess if the collaboration between the consortium partners is effective
- To assess the extent to which the project is reaching its targets, how feasible were these in the first place and recommendations for how CRAFT could ensure to meet those targets (within project timeline or possible extension) and ensure the sustainability of results.
- To assess the impact of COVID-19 pandemic on project implementation and results.

The mid-term review team will review project progress and results, based on an assessment (assessment of project data/reports), next to stakeholder consultation also consultations with project staff, consortium partners and project participants (mainly the CIIF SMEs, farmers).

3. Midterm Evaluation Focus

The mid-term evaluation will answer the specific evaluation questions around Relevance, Effectiveness, Efficiency, Impact, Sustainability, Gender mainstreaming, Scalability, Learning and Coherence.

4.Consultancy Objectives

Given the objectives of the MTR, SNV seeks to hire a consultant team to conduct the Mid term review exercise in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda. Specifically, the consultant tasks will be as follows: -

- A. Based on the scope of work, develop the Inception report and the detailed work plan for the MTR.
- B. Develop the methodology to employ, data collection tools and analysis plan
- C. Collect, clean, and analyse all the raw data collected.
- D. Compile the MTR draft report based on agreed upon format
- E. Address all comments from the Reference group and include all recommendations for moving project implementation forward.
- F. Handover all raw datasets both in soft and hard copy to SNV.

6.Methodology

The Consultant Team will visit the three countries and interact with 4 Business champions per country (2 onboarded early 2019/20 and 2 onboarded in 2021 Jan to June, a mix of SME, Coop and Service Provider, and divided over the different VC's) and 2 Business Cases' partners per country for indepth interviews. However, the Consultant Team will interact with all business champions in the three countries through an (online) focus group discussion. The selection criteria of focus-BC's to be determined during inception phase.

The Mid-Term review should include, but not be limited to, the above-mentioned methods. The OECD DAC Evaluation Quality Standards¹ will be applied, meaning: all data of beneficiaries will be collected and interpreted in a sex and age disaggregated manner and

¹ See: [revised-evaluation-criteria-dec-2019.pdf \(oecd.org\)](https://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/12/5/49812512.pdf)

will be treated confidentially. It is expected that the bidder develops a proposal that has a low environmental footprint and takes the different restrictions under COVID-19 into account.

The consultant will propose the methodology to be used to carry out the review. The proposed methodology should address sufficiently the preliminary issues and questions in the ToR, specifying the methods of data collection and data analysis that will be undertaken. It should encompass a combination of both qualitative and quantitative methods. It should also allow for wide consultation with partners and stakeholders. Consultants must propose their own methodology and justify it. The mid-term review will consist of the following: -

a) **Desk study:** Both public and internal documents are to be reviewed.

b) Interviews and Focus group discussions will be conducted with a variety of internal and external stakeholders

c) Field Visits in the countries

d) Presentation to the reference group for this MTR, consisting of representatives of the SNV, representative of consortium partners and DGIS.

Travel to the field.

The assignment involves travelling to the three countries, and in country travel, to be able to interact with the partners companies in the three countries. In total, it is estimated that the consultants will spend at least 10 days per country. SNV will provide, accommodation, per diem based on SNV rates and transport from SNV offices to the field.

7.Deliverables

The consultant will deliver to CRAFT Project the following:

- **Inception report by 15 November 2021**
 - A comprehensive description of the consultant's understanding of the ToR
 - A detailed methodology for the MTR including tools to be used
 - The proposed team members and a description of their roles
 - A complete work plan for the MTR
 - Detailed proposal for field activities in the three countries, including a COVID-19 risk mitigation plan
 - A proposal for the final layout of the Report
- **First Draft Report due on 27 January 2022**
 - First draft report with first findings of the desk study and interviews will be presented to SNV for review and discussion with the reference group.
- **Second Draft report due on 15 February 2021**
 - Easily readable, not exceeding 40 pages, without annexes.
 - Input from the reference group incorporated into the report by the consultant.
 - Include concrete future looking recommendations and answering the specific research questions mentioned in the ToR.
- **Final report due on 10 March 2022**
 - Incorporating recommendations from the 2nd reference group meeting
 - Detailed MTR report covering items outlined in the scope of this ToR with special attention to key findings, conclusions, lessons learned and recommendations. The final payment will be paid upon submission of high quality and acceptable MTR report.

SNV will provide the following to the Consultant

- All relevant documents
- Office Space during the time of the assignment where relevant
- Other field logistics like accommodation, air tickets where applicable, vehicle transport and meals while in the field.

8. Qualifications of the consultant

Requirements

Applications are welcome from consultancy firms or group of consultants. Consultants should have international experience in the agri-business sector including climate change related assignments. Good knowledge of agribusiness development, Climate Change, and Inclusive business models and a broad network. Experience in the countries where CRAFT is active and excellent analytical and writing skills.

The proposed consultant team is expected to have a multi-disciplinary team with a team leader. The Team leader requires expertise in the technical areas listed above as well as expertise and demonstrated experience in designing evaluation methodology and data collection tools and demonstrated experience in leading similar reviews/evaluations.

The MTR team will comprise of both senior and more junior experts, including nationally based consultants with the following expertise:

1. A senior level team leader who will lead the overall coordination of the mid-term evaluation and timely submission of deliverables to SNV. The team leader is expected to have at least 15 years of relevant experience in PPP partnering processes, inclusive agribusiness, climate change and policy advise in Africa.
2. A technical consultant with at least 5 years' experience specialized in inclusive agri-business development and climate change preferably in Africa.
3. At least 3 National consultants with PPP partnering processes, inclusive agribusiness development expertise, climate change knowledge and the right local networks.

The MTR team leader is responsible for: 1) conducting the review; 2) the day-to-day management of assignment; 3) fair and transparent interaction with the program; 4) regular progress reporting to SNV; and 4) production of deliverables in accordance with contractual requirements.

For a firm, the following must be attached

- Registration documentation
- Firm/company constitution (memo's and articles of association/companies act)
- Valid trading Licence
- C.V's of proposed team members showing education, employment or consultancy background.

Evaluation of criteria

Area of assessment	Criteria
Administrative assessment	Pass or fail basis
Technical assessment	Will be out of score of 90
Financial assessment	Will be out of a score of 10

SNV reserves the right to award a contract to the proposal that it sees fits well with their profile and is not mandated to award a contract to the lowest bidder. Due to the large number of applicants, we may not be able to get back to all. If by the start date you have not heard from us, please consider yourself unsuccessful.

9. Submission of proposals

For proposals to be eligible they should include:

- A technical proposal.
- A financial proposal.
- At least two references.
- A list of relevant previous assignments conducted in the past 3-5 years.

Deadline for submission:

The submissions for proposals from qualified consultants will close on 20 October 2021

9. Period

The assignment will start from October 31, 2021, to March 10th, 2022

11. Payment Schedule

- A. First installment **20%**. Paid upon completion of the following.
 - Upon signing and presentation of approved inception report that demonstrates understanding of the tasks of the ToR and how the proposed tasks will be accomplished.
- B. Second installment **30%**. Paid upon completion of the following deliverables.
 - First draft report with first findings of the desk study and interviews presented to SNV reviewed and discussed with the reference group (CRAFT PMU, Country Teams and Consortium Partners).
- C. Third installment **50%** to be paid after the following deliverables:
Final Report covering the following:
 - Incorporating recommendations from the 2nd reference group meeting
 - A high quality and accepted MTR report covering items outlined in the scope of this ToR with special attention to key findings, conclusions, lessons learned and recommendations

How to apply

Interested individuals or firms are expected to submit their proposals both financial and technical. The technical proposal should clearly demonstrate their skills and experience for the review process, methodology and approach. Applications should be sent electronically (email) to the procurement team at SNV UGANDA. Email to submit to is ugandatenders@snv.org not later than Oct 20th, 2021. With CRAFT MTR consultancy in the subject line.

There will an opportunity for questions, please send your questions ugandatenders@snv.org by 8 October 2021 clearly stating questions on MTR consultancy in the subject line.