**T.O.R for a consultant to support CRAFT and CORE on Rapid Assessment of Soybean value chain in Uganda**

1. **Introduction**

**Climate Resilient Agribusiness for Tomorrow (CRAFT)**

The Climate Resilient Agribusiness for Tomorrow (CRAFT) project is funded by Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The project uses an inclusive business development approach to support the international and Dutch efforts on climate change and sustainable production in arable farming. SNV is implementing the Climate Resilient Agribusiness for Tomorrow (CRAFT) project in partnership with Wageningen University & Research (WUR), the CGIAR Research Program on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS), Agriterra and Rabo Partnerships. CRAFT is a five-year project which started on January 1, 2018 and expected to end in May 2023.

Goal: To contribute to increased availability of accessible and climate-resilient food for the growing population in Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania.

The strategic objectives include:

* Increase the income for smallholder farmers and Small and Medium Enterprise (SMEs).
* Increase business performance for agribusiness SMEs and Cooperatives due to climate related investments.
* Improve the enabling environment favorable for large scale roll out of Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA).

Cross cutting themes:

* Knowledge sharing and learning are cross-cutting elements of the CRAFT project. To inform the scaling of practices, technologies, approaches and methodologies that have proven to be successful.
* Gender equality and opportunities for youth employment is fully integrated in the project’s implementation

The approach

CRAFT uses a facilitative approach to implement solutions that integrate improvements in food security with climate adaptation and mitigation of food crop production and supply systems. This, together with leveraged investment in interventions that promote market-driven adoption and scaling of inclusive climate-smart business developments enhances climate resilience along the selected agricultural value chain to increase productive capacity and incomes of smallholder farmers.

The project thus expects to deliver regional impact in the following areas:

Through the application of an inclusive business approach to climate smart and resilient agriculture the project envisions not only attaining business impact, but also societal and environmental impact. The project thus expects to deliver impact in the following areas:

* Increased productivity and income for 300,000 smallholder farmers.
* Improved business performance for 50 agribusiness SMEs and 30 cooperatives (of which at least 25% women or youth managed);
* Climate resilient sustainable food production practiced on 600,000 hectares.

**About SNV CORE**

CORE-Africa (COVID-19 Response and Resilience Initiative for Food Value Chains in Africa) is an SNV Netherlands Development Organisation initiative that aims to strengthen responses to the COVID-19 and overall resilience situation through nine (lead) DGIS -funded projects across Africa including:

• BRIDGE | Ethiopia

• Cabo Delgado programme | Mozambique

• CRAFT| Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda

• HortINVEST | Rwanda

• HortiLIFE | Ethiopia

• TIDE | Uganda

• MODHEM+ | Burkina Faso

• PAPAB+ | Burundi

• STAMP+ | Mali

The COVID-19 has exposed vulnerabilities in the project supported value chains and sectors. In these unprecedented circumstances there is a need for quick learning and responses. This is done through the rapid collection information and data, the integration of hygiene and operational health & safety measures, the strengthening of resilience of food chains/systems and the coping strategies of actors within them, and the integration of relevant digital solutions.

Hence CORE’s objectives specific are

* Strengthen concrete COVID-19 and overall resilience responses in 9 lead DGIS projects (and beyond).
* Enable quality actions in 4 specific focus areas (rapid assessments, strengthening resilience, hygiene, and digitalization).
* Extract insights and lessons for a broader community of practice and policy.

1. **The Rapid Assessment**

The Rapid Assessments is an integral part of the approach for the SNV-CORE Project, for which SNV has entered a strategic collaboration with Wageningen Centre for Development Innovation (WCDI).

The Rapid Assessments are intended to inform adaptive management responses of programmes and projects, to respond and support partners to cope with sudden, uncommon and unpredictable changes in food value chains, and to help identify appropriate responses that connect short-term, mid-term and systemic challenges and needs. Since the analysis will be done from a sector/system perspective, it will also build collective system intelligence within the multi-actor setting projects are working in, which will help to identify and address (emerging / systemic) sector issues, to build a shared coping ability and the chain’s / system’s resilience, and to thus bring about desired / required system changes accordingly. SNV has requested for an assessment within the soybean sector in Uganda, as part of the CRAFT project.

.**The objectives of a rapid assessment for the soybean sector in Uganda are formulated as following:**

For the sector:

* Inform, strengthen and guide the soybean sector to identify and address sector / value chain issues, challenges and opportunities and to make an inventory of the lessons learned so far.
* Assess the potential of and the position of the soybean sector (opportunities and strengths) in transforming the agricultural sector and drive economic development in Uganda and the East African region in relation to other commodities and global outlook.
* Identify key limitations and critical areas of improvement within the soybean value chain, that impede development of the soybean sector and the oil seed sector in Uganda and the East African region in general.
* Generate relevant and validated sector information for dialogue, advocacy, informed (sector-wide) decision making and learning within the soybean sector.
* Provide a tool that on a regular basis can quickly measure or evaluate progress in the soybean sector in terms of value chain development and/or sector transformation and/or private sector development.

1. **Objective of the consultant**

The main tasks to be undertaken by the consultant are:

1. Support development of the survey questionnaire and interview guides.
2. Support the survey to gather data including conducting focus group discussions, key informant interviews.
3. Support developing alerts or Rapid Assessment document
4. Support validating the Rapid Assessment document
5. Support publication and sharing of the Rapid Assessment document
6. Generate relevant and validated sector information for dialogue, advocacy, informed (sector-wide) decision making and learning within the soybean sector.
7. **Deliverables**

The expected deliverables are description, analysis, and/or recommendations on:

1. Sample and corresponding primary data sets.
2. A rapid assessment report with corresponding supporting documents.
3. Key stakeholders/actors to collaborate with during integration.
4. Opportunities for collaboration with GoU.
5. Policy related issues to address in the integration of Health and Safety in the VCs.
6. **Methodology**

The consultant will be requested to design an appropriate approach to deliver on the above.

1. A review of relevant project documents.
2. A discussion session with the project team members.
3. An FGD with key stakeholders with insights and experience in soybean VC. namely, Inputs & Production; Processing & Storage; Distribution/Transportation; Marketing /Retailing and Consumption/Waste recycling.
4. Face-to-face interviews with managers.
5. Face-to-face interviews with key actors in soybean VC.
6. The consultant will follow the already design methodology, and therefore no technical proposal is required.
7. Clarify on the data collection tools to be used for each target audience.

**7. Time frame and inputs**

The assignment will commence on March 1 through May 31st, 2021 with a final report expected on or before the June 7, 2021.

Indicative tentative schedule of activities (please fill in and update the table):

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **No.** | **Work area** | **Number of days** | **2021** | | | | |
| **Mar** | **Apr** | **May** | **Comment** |
| 1. | Developing the survey tools & questionnaire |  | x |  |  |  |
| 2. | Running the survey |  | x |  |  |  |
| 3 | Identifying alerts based on survey results |  |  | x |  |  |
| 4. | Conduction FGDs |  |  | x |  |  |
| 5. | Developing the Alert / Rapid Assessment document |  |  | x | x |  |
| 6. | Validating the Alert / Rapid Assessment document |  |  |  | x |  |
| 7. | Publishing and sharing the Alert / Rapid Assessment document |  |  |  | x |  |
|  | Total | 30 |  |  |  |  |

1. **SNV support and reporting lines**

SNV CRAFT will provide the following support: travel, accommodation, office space, others.

The consultant will be answerable to PM CRAFT unless otherwise delegated. The consultant will regularly consult with SNV CORE team.

1. **Budget**
2. Applicant to send financial quote based on the activities schedule above.
3. Payment modalities

* Deliverable based payment terms.

1. **Required**
2. Education and work experience:

* MSc degree Agricultural or social sciences.
* At least 10 years of experience in this and related fields.

1. Specific skills

* Good interpersonal and analytical skills
* Good oral and written communication.
* Ability to translate research findings into practical and sustainable operational actions.

1. **Professional requirements**

* Qualification of firm/individual(s) in relevant field.
* Proven experience of firm/ Individual (s) in conducting similar assignments (show C. V’s of key proposed individuals to undertake the assignment, proof of past similar assignments, hiring organisation, period conducted and cost).
* Proven experience of firm/Individual (s) in working with public and private structures
* Methodology proposed and demonstrated understanding of the T.O.R shown by the Technical Proposal submitted.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Criteria** | **Maximum score** |
| 1 | Qualifications of firm/ Individual (s) in relevant field. Firms to present tax registration certificates, tax clearance, valid trading licences, memos and articles of association/companies act, powers of attorney. Individual consultants to submit detailed C.V (most preferably Msc degree in Agriculture or social sciences with atleast 10 year of experience) | 20 |
| 2 | Proven experience of firm/ Individual (s) in conducting similar assignments (show C.V’s of key proposed individuals to undertake the assignment, proof of past similar assignments, hiring organisation, period conducted and cost). | 20 |
| 3 | Proven experience of firm/Individual (s) in working with public and private structures | 20 |
| 4 | Methodology proposed and demonstrated understanding of the ToR. | 30 |
| 5 | Faireness of financial proposal in relation to technical proposal | 10 |
|  | TOTAL | 100 |

The applicants will be evaluated through an interview process.

Selection is on capacity and similar assignments.

1. **Application**

Interested applicants should submit the following to SNV Uganda office:

1. Detailed technical and financial proposals as per the professional requirements above
2. CV
3. **Submission**

Hardcopy documents in sealed envelopes well labelled “Rapid Assessment consultancy” should be submitted to

**SNV Bugolobi office, plot 36 Luthuli rise, Bugolobi.**

1. **Deadline**

The deadline for the applications is February 16th, 2021 at 11am.