



TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR CONSULTANT

Review of past and current relevant agricultural research and literature across West and Central Africa: a critical input for identification of mixed crop and livestock farming systems research interventions in sub humid and semi arid regions

Opening date: June 14th, 2010

Closing date: June 28^h, 2010

Introduction

As a central component of Australia's commitment to supporting the Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Programme (CAADP), and in particular Pillar IV, AusAID is supporting the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) to develop an institutional partnership with CORAF/WECARD. This partnership intends improving agricultural research which addresses challenges particularly of animal health and mixed crop and livestock farming systems in the sub-humid and semi-arid zones of the sub region, which share several important similarities with the climate and soils of northern Australia. Strengthening research capacity in these areas will lead to the improvement of resource management and sustainable agricultural production. In order, therefore, to ensure meaningful research intervention by the CORAF/WECARD and CSIRO partnership, it is imperative to undertake an appropriate review and assessment of past and current relevant agricultural research trends in West and Central Africa with particular emphasis on semi arid-sub humid regions.

1. Objective:

The objective of the work is to provide up-to-date knowledge on relevant agricultural research in the area of mixed crop and livestock farming systems in West and central Africa with particular emphasis on the semi arid and sub-humid regions.

2. Expected Output

- Knowledge on agricultural research conducted and literature during **the last 10 years** on mixed crop and livestock farming systems in semi-arid and sub-humid zones;

- Major strengths, weaknesses and opportunities of past and current relevant agricultural research, with a focus on semi-arid and sub-humid zones, identified;
- Appropriate areas for agricultural research interventions delineated
- A clear and reliable Plan to guide future agricultural research interventions in WCA with an emphasis on semi-arid and sub-humid zones.

3. Tasks of the Consultant

The consultant is responsible for:

- review past and current agricultural research and literature in WCA with a focus on the Semi-arid and sub-humid regions;
- describe and analyze past and current relevant agricultural research per category of mixed crop livestock farming systems in WCA with a focus on the semi-arid and sub-humid zones;
- bring out and analyze major strengths and weaknesses of past relevant agricultural research in the sub-region with a focus on the semi-arid and sub-humid zones;
- identify and analyze major stakeholders in agricultural research and development in the semiarid–sub humid zones;
- formulate recommendations which will guide agricultural research interventions in the semi-arid and sub-humid zones of WCA.

4. Methodology: A consultant will be hired to conduct a desk review of past and current relevant agricultural research in the WCA region with emphasis on the semi arid-sub humid sub region. At the beginning of the study, the consultant will propose a work plan and a calendar which will be validated at the Executive Secretary of CORAF/WECARD. He or She will have **15 days** from **July 1st - 15th, 2010** for the assignment including desk review, writing the report as well as possible revision to incorporate comments and suggestions from CORAF/WECARD and CSIRO.

5. Qualification and Experience:

The Consultants should have the following qualifications and expertise in the respective disciplines:

- (i) An advanced degree preferably a Ph.D. in agricultural sciences or related field
- (ii) At least 10 years of relevant professional experience as an agricultural scientist or related fields
- (iii) Experience in agricultural research planning and implementation at national and international levels in West and Central Africa will be of considerable advantage

- (iv) Impressive publication record in agricultural research or related fields
- (v) Good writing skills in English or French with working knowledge of the other
- (vi) being bilingual will be an added advantage

Female candidates are encouraged to apply.

6. Remuneration:

An attractive bulk sum will be paid based on the qualification and experience of the consultant. A total of 15 days is expected for this assignment. The methods of payment of the consultant will be specified in the contract of service, which will be signed between the consultant and CORAF/WECARD.

7. Submission of the report: The consultant should submit a final report of **not more than 30 pages** in addition to relevant annexes **within 20 days after signing the contract.**

8. Application: Interested consultants are invited to send in an expression of interest to the Executive Director of CORAF/WECARD secoraf@coraf.org or at CORAF/WECARD, 7 Avenue Bourguiba BP 48 Dakar PR Senegal the latest Monday **June 28th 2010.**