

CALL FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Services of an Individual Consultant in charge of the

Implementation of the ECOWAS Regulation C/REG.4/05/2008 harmonizing the Rules governing the quality control, certification and marketing of seeds and seedlings in the ECOWAS-UEMOA CILSS region

Call opening: April 26, 2019

Call closure: May 10, 2019

CEI N° 07-2019

CORAF was mandated to coordinate the implementation by Member States of the Regional Regulation C/REG.4/05/2008 harmonizing the rules governing quality control, certification and marketing of seeds and seedlings in the ECOWAS-UEMOA-CILSS region, and to serve as the secretariat of the ECOWAS-UEMOA-CILSS Regional Seed Committee.

The Executive Director of CORAF invites Consultants to express their interest in providing the services described in the terms of reference below:

Prospective consultants must submit a written expression of interest that includes: (i) a letter of motivation and (ii) an updated and detailed curriculum vitae clearly showing, inter alia, the ability and professional experience to conduct the work.

The mission will be conducted over a period of 4 months.

Consultants will be selected in accordance with the procedures defined in CORAF's Administrative and Financial Procedures Manual.

Interested Consultants may request additional information from the PAIRED Programme Manager, Dr Hippolyte Affognon (h.affognon@coraf.org) or Dr Yacouba Diallo (y.diallo@coraf.org) at the following times: 8am to 12pm and from 3pm to 5pm GMT. For further details, see the terms of reference of the mission attached.

Expressions of interest must be submitted by e-mail to procurement@coraf.org by **May 10, 2019 at 10:00 GMT at the latest.**

Dr Abdou TENKOUANO
Executive Director of CORAF

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Individual Consultant Services to support the implementation of ECOWAS Regulation C/REG.4/05/2008 on Harmonization of the Rules governing Quality Control, Certification and Marketing of Seeds and seedlings in the ECOWAS-UEMOA-CILSS area

CORAF received financial support from USAID - West Africa for the implementation of the Partnership for Agricultural Research, Education and Development (PAIRED) programme. Part of the programme's resources is allocated to support the ECOWAS-UEMOA-CILSS Regional Seed Committee in the implementation of the harmonised regional regulation governing the quality control, certification and marketing of seeds and seedlings in the ECOWAS-UEMOA-CILSS area.

The mission of the ECOWAS-UEMOA-CILSS Regional Seed Committee is to assist the ECOWAS and UEMOA Commissions in the implementation of existing regulations on quality control, certification and marketing of seeds and seedlings, with a view to contributing to the implementation of regional and national seed policies and the development of the seed sector in Member States.

Within the framework of this mission, the mission of the ECOWAS-UEMOA-CILSS Regional Seed Committee is specifically to:

- facilitate the dissemination of new varieties, through their inclusion in the ECOWAS-UEMOA-CILSS regional catalogue of plant species and varieties;
- encouraging the production, use and free circulation of quality seeds;
- promote the emergence of a strong regional seed industry;
- promote the sharing of experiences, cooperation, the common regional agricultural policy and strategies for regional actions;
- facilitate the dissemination of seed information;
- raise awareness of Member States on the concerns raised by users and other stakeholders in the seed value chain.

1. TASKS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

CORAF is seeking an Expert in Seed Policy to assist it in the implementation of the mission of the ECOWAS-UEMOA-CILSS Regional Seed Committee, hereinafter referred to as the "Committee". Under the authority of the Executive Director of CORAF, acting in the name and on behalf of the ECOWAS and UEMOA Commissioners of Agriculture, the Consultant shall:

- a) Prepare and ensure the organization of the holding and reporting of the next ordinary session of the Regional Seed Committee (COASem);
- (b) Take stock of the implementation of the recommendations of the last Ordinary Meeting of the ECOWAS-UEMOA-CILSS Regional Seed Committee (ECOWAS-UEMOA-CILSS), and present it to the next session of the Committee slated for July 2019;
- (c) Oversee the finalization (processing and analysis of variety data, editing and translation into the three ECOWAS languages: French, English and Portuguese) of the new version of the ECOWAS-UEMOA-CILSS regional catalogue of plant species and varieties;
- (d) Monitor the drafting of prefaces and the signature by the three institutions of the ECOWAS-UEMOA-CILSS Regional Catalogue of Plant Species and Varieties;
- (e) Oversee the development of the national quarantine pest list of 3 countries (Côte d'Ivoire, Niger and Ghana) and the development and validation of the regional quarantine pest list in coordination with the expert recruited for this purpose;
- (f) Draft the terms of reference and supervise the committee of experts to develop the Executive Regulations for the import and export of plant seeds and seedlings in West Africa.

2. REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

This Successful consultant must hold a PhD or, at least, a master's degree (MSc) in Plant Breeding, Agronomy, Seed Technology or any other related field.

He/she must have proven knowledge of agricultural research and development and seed systems in West and Central Africa. He/she must have worked for at least 10 years in the agricultural research and development sector with at least five years' experience in seed/agricultural policy and regulatory services.

He/she must have the ability to promote ECOWAS Regulation C/REG.4/05/2008, harmonizing the rules governing the quality control, certification and marketing of plant seeds and seedlings and Regulation C/REG.13/12/12 on the quality control of fertilizers, within the ECOWAS-UEMOA-CILSS area.

He/she must have proven knowledge of the procedures for registering varieties in the national/regional catalogue of plant species and varieties (conducting the examination of distinctive characteristics, uniformity and stability or identification - DUS examination, and the test of agronomic, technological and environmental value - VATE test, as well as the quality control and seed certification procedures).

He/she must have proven knowledge of agricultural research and development, plant breeding, plant genetic resource management or seed systems in West and Central Africa.

He/she should be an experienced professional with extensive technical and managerial experience in agricultural development programmes, preferably in the seed industry, particularly in West and Central Africa.

He/she should have the ability to work with, coordinate and inspire a multidisciplinary and multicultural team, in a multi-stakeholder environment, and to engage in high-level policy dialogue with clients.

He/she should have the ability to facilitate knowledge generation and results-based management in the context of the ECOWAS, UEMOA, CILSS and CORAF agendas.

He/she must have the ability to contribute to maintaining a constructive working environment and excellent working relationships with internal and external stakeholders.

He/she must have the ability and willingness to travel extensively within the sub-region and internationally.

He/she must have a good knowledge of the IT tool with a perfect command of the Microsoft Office package, be well organized, with a good ability to plan, solve problems, write well and edit scientific documents and/or documents in general.

He/she must have the ability to write and speak English and French at level "A" in one language and at least at the intermediate level "B" in the other. A knowledge of Portuguese could be an additional advantage.

The candidate must be a national of a CORAF member country.

The working time is at most 80 man-days and will be spread over a calendar period of four months.