

CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Individual Consultancy: "Crop Protection Specialist"

For the development of the " Draft Executive Regulation related to Modalities of Phytosanitary Control and Certification for plant seed & Seedling for West Africa"

Opening date : 5th August 2019

Closing date: 20th August 2019

CEI N° 17-2019

The West and Central African Council for Agricultural Research and Development (CORAF) brings together 23 National Agricultural Research Systems (NARS): Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Cote d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Equatorial Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo.

CORAF's vision is "Prosperity and Food and Nutrition Security in West and Central Africa".

CORAF's mission is: "Sustainable improvements in the productivity, competitiveness and markets of the agricultural system in West and Central Africa".

For more information, please visit the organization's web page at www.coraf.org.

In accordance with the provisions of Article 4, relating to the mechanism for implementing the Seed Cooperation Agreement, between ECOWAS, UEMOA and CILSS, signed in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, on 4 June 2018, these three Organizations have agreed to entrust CORAF with the implementation of their harmonized regional seed & seedling regulations, for a period of five (5) years, renewable according to the results obtained.

It is within the framework of the implementation of this Tripartite Agreement and, specifically, the provisions of Article 78, Paragraph 4, of the ECOWAS Regulation

Conseil Ouest et Centre Africain pour la Recherche et le Développement Agricoles
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relating to the quarantine and non-quarantine pest lists and Modalities of plant seed and seedling phytosanitary control that are decided by the ECOWAS and UEMOA Commissions, that CORAF seeks to recruit a highly qualified person to develop the " Draft Executive Regulation related to Modalities of Phytosanitary Control and phytosanitary Certification of Seed and Seedling for West Africa ”.

The Executive Director of CORAF invites consultants with the desired profile as indicated in the terms of reference to express their interest in this call.

The mission of the Consultant must not exceed **25 men-days paid** and is scheduled to take place over a calendar period of **65 days from 30th August to 4th November 2019**.

Interested consultants can obtain additional information from the Executive Secretariat by sending a message to the following address: y.diallo@coraf.org

This recruitment is a senior position and CORAF offers competitive conditions to its employees. CORAF is an employer that guarantees equal opportunities and female candidates are strongly encouraged.

SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION

Applicants must be nationals of countries whose National Agricultural Research Systems (NARS) are members of CORAF. Applications will include a cover letter, a detailed resume, names and contacts of three references (e-mail, address, and phone). The covering letter must be sent to the Executive Director of CORAF, at the Executive Secretariat, 7, Avenue Bourguiba, PO Box 48 Dakar RP, Senegal.

Applications must be sent by email solely to the Executive Secretariat at procurement@coraf.org no later than **Tuesday, 20th August 2019, at 5:00 pm**.

Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted for an interview.

The attached terms of reference provide further details on the consultant's mission.

Terms of References

Recruitment of an individual consultant (short term) for the development of the “Draft Executive Regulation related to Modalities of Phytosanitary Control and phytosanitary Certification of plant Seed & Seedling for West Africa”.

I. CONTEXT AND JUSTIFICATION

CORAF has received financial support from USAID - West Africa for the implementation of the Partnership Program for Agricultural Research, Education and Development (PAIRED). Part of the program’s resources are allocated to support the Regional ECOWAS-UEMOA-CILSS Seeds Committee in the implementation of the harmonized regional regulation governing Quality Control, Certification and Marketing of Seeds and Seedlings in the ECOWAS-UEMOA-CILSS zone.

This CORAF support is in line with the provisions of Article 4 of the Seed Cooperation Agreement between ECOWAS, UEMOA and CILSS, signed in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, on 4 June 2018, which entrusts to CORAF the implementation of their harmonized regional seed & seedling regulations, for a period of five (5) years, renewable according to the results obtained.

This mission is in support of the implementation of Regulation C/REG.4/05/2008, Harmonization of the Rules Governing the Quality Control, Certification and Marketing of Plant Seeds and Seedlings in the ECOWAS Zone, more specifically, the provisions of its Article 78, Paragraph 4, related to the quarantine and non-quarantine pest lists and modalities of phytosanitary control and phytosanitary certification of plant seed and seedling. It consists of the recruitment of a highly qualified person to draw up the “Draft Executive Regulation related to Modalities of Phytosanitary Control and phytosanitary Certification for seed & Seedling for West Africa”.

The Draft Executive Regulation will be drawn up taking into account the provisions of the following reference documents:

- Regulation C/REG.4/05/2008, on Harmonization of the Rules Governing the Quality Control, Certification and Marketing of Plant Seeds and Seedlings in the ECOWAS Zone and its Implementing Regulations and Related Documents;
- Regulation No. 007/2007/CM/UEMOA, on Health Safety of Plants, Animals and Food in UEMOA, particularly in its provisions relating to plants;
- The revised text of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC), particularly its 34 International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs);
- National regulations for phytosanitary control and phytosanitary certification of seed.

During the mission for the development of the Implementing Regulations, the Consultant will take into account the common features of the standards, as contained in the IPPC, namely that:

- they are designed to protect the environment and human health, while facilitating international trade and commercial transactions;
- they are designed to be transparent and to allow for the harmonization of regulations governing international and commercial transactions, so that the application of these regulations will remove artificial barriers to trade and commercial transactions as well as other sources of dispute between countries;
- they are developed on the basis of the best scientific knowledge of the moment (which implies a regular revision, according to the latest scientific progress);
- phytosanitary measures must correspond to the phytosanitary risks incurred and the least restrictive measures available. They should, as little as possible, hinder the international movement of persons, goods and vehicles, and;
- phytosanitary measures must be applied without discrimination between countries with the same phytosanitary status. For a quarantine pest, the phytosanitary measures applied to the imported goods must not be more stringent than those applying to the same pest in the territory of the importing contracting party.

The present terms of reference specify the conditions under which CORAF seeks to recruit a consultant (short term), Specialist in Plant Protection, to help him develop a preliminary “Draft Executive Regulation related to Modalities of Phytosanitary Control and phytosanitary Certification of plant Seed & Seedling for West Africa”.

II. OBJECTIVE OF THE CONSULTANCY

The objective of the mission is to develop a preliminary "Draft Executive Regulation related to Modalities of Phytosanitary Control and phytosanitary Certification of plant Seed & Seedling for West Africa" to be adopted by the ECOWAS and UEMOA Commissions and the CILSS Executive Secretariat, in order to facilitate cross-border seed trade, free from quarantine pests, in the ECOWAS-UEMOA-CILSS regional area.

III. EXPECTED RESULTS

At the end of his mission, the consultant will have to provide a document "Preliminary "Draft Executive Regulation related to Modalities of Phytosanitary Control and phytosanitary certification of plant Seed & Seedling for West Africa". This draft will have to take into account the general and specific principles governing the phytosanitary measures of the IPPC.

The draft document of the implementing regulations will include, *inter alia*, the following sections:

- a description of terminologies according to international standards (IPPC)
- **general procedures**, phytosanitary control and certification of seeds
- **specific procedures**, specific to each of the 11 priority crops of the ECOWAS-UEMOA-CILSS regional area
- Control over import and export
- Offenses - sanctions and miscellaneous provisions
- Appendices and other forms/templates required
- Etc.

IV. CONSULTANT'S MANDATE

Placed under the authority of CORAF's Director of Research and Innovation, the Specialist Consultant in Plant Protection will work in close collaboration with the CORAF Seed and Advocacy Policy consultant. He should:

1. Make use of national, regional and international regulations relevant to the purpose of the mission.

2. Conduct interviews with key stakeholders (NPPOs of some member countries, sub regional and regional bodies in charge of phytosanitary and seed regulation issues, seed actors, etc.).
3. Describe the restrictive measures that must be applied and meet phytosanitary requirements.
4. Describe phytosanitary measures that are technically justified (transparency) and that will be published by the contracting parties.
5. Develop the draft version of the preliminary draft implementing regulations and submit it to a Technical Review and Validation Committee.
6. Collect the contributions of the technical committee and produce the final version.

V. METHODOLOGICAL ORIENTATIONS

The Plant Protection Consultant will work in close collaboration with the CORAF Seed Policy and Advocacy Specialist. They will have working meetings with the Permanent Secretary of the Sahelian Committee of Pesticides (CSP) of the Sahel Institute (INSAH/CILSS), the Plant Health Safety, Food and Animals Officer at the UEMOA Department of Agriculture and some officials of National Plant Protection Offices (NPPO/DPV) targeted, including the Departments of Plant Protection of Burkina Faso and Senegal. It will also have to submit for validation its deliverables, particularly the working methodology and the draft version to CORAF and/or to an ad hoc technical committee.

VI. REPORT FORMAT AND WORKING LANGUAGE

All reports, notes and minutes prepared by the consultant must be written in French or English. The documents to be presented must be in hard copy and in electronic formats in Word, Excel or PowerPoint.

VII. DURATION AND PERIOD OF MISSION

The consultancy is spread over a calendar period of **65 calendar days for a delivery of 25 paid working** days of effective work including 3 missions in Bamako-Ouagadougou and Dakar. Two missions will be combined with (i) launching activities and (ii) restitution/validation during a workshop with the technical committee.

VIII. QUALIFICATIONS OF CONSULTANT

The candidate sought must have the following qualifications:

- Hold a Master's degree in Agronomy, Phytosanitary Protection Option, Plant Improvement, Plant Protection, or any other related field of Plant Protection. A PhD will be an advantage
- Have a proven knowledge of the provisions of the IPPC as well as SPS agreements/standards
- Have a proven knowledge of plant protection systems for plants in West Africa and have worked at least 8 years in the agricultural sector, particularly in the management of import and export records of plant material, specifically plant seeds, in West Africa;
- Have a proven knowledge of the regional ECOWAS C/REG.4/05/2008 regional seed regulation, harmonizing the rules governing Quality Control, Certification and Seed Marketing [in West Africa];
- Have a good command of texts on Biosafety in the ECOWAS-UEMOA-CILSS zone;
- Have proven experience in capacity building of actors (SMEs, national and regional associations and international companies, official inspection and seed certification services (SOC), border control services of NPPOs/DPVs, etc.), phytosanitary control and certification, particularly seed import and export procedures in West Africa;
- Excellent analytical skills and experience in the design and drafting of regulatory texts
- Have a perfect command of written and spoken French and a good knowledge of English (or vice versa) and countries of the ECOWAS-UEMOA-CILSS regional area.

IX. SUBMISSION OF DOCUMENTS

Applications will include a covering letter, a detailed resume, names and contacts of three references (e-mail, address, and phone). The covering letter will be sent to the

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Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted for the rest of the selection process.

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