CALL FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Recruitment of an individual consultant to produce a manuscript based on the results of the evaluation of the climate-smart characteristics of technologies used in FSRP countries

---

Call opening date: July 9, 2025
Call closing date: July 18, 2025

RELAUNCH 1

CEI N° 09-2025

The West and African Centre for Agricultural Research and Development (CORAF) was founded in 1987. CORAF (www.coraf.org) currently includes the National Agricultural Research Systems (NARS) of 23 countries in West and Central Africa: Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo.

CORAF has prioritized the scaling up of proven agricultural technologies in its current strategic plan (2018-2027) and is taking the lead in coordinating regional initiatives to scale up and facilitate the effective use of agricultural technologies. The World Bank significantly supports CORAF in this mission with two important regional projects: (i) the West Africa Food Systems Resilience Program (FSRP) and (ii) the Accelerating the Impacts of CGIAR Climate Research for Africa (AICCRA).

In 2023 and 2025, CORAF, the Alliance Bioversity and CIAT, through the AICCRA project, in collaboration with the FSRP and with financial support from the World Bank, organized two regional training workshops (one in West Africa and a second in Central Africa) on the use of a robust methodology to assess the climate-smart characteristics of existing T&I.

CORAF, in collaboration with the Alliance Bioversity and CIAT, organized another regional workshop for FSRP countries to take advantage of this methodology and assessed the climate characteristics of T&Is to be deployed in each country participating in the program.

In the process of implementing this activity, CORAF is hiring an individual consultant to produce a manuscript based on the results of the evaluation of the climate-smart characteristics of these technologies in used in FSRP countries.

The CORAF Executive Director invites candidates with the required qualifications indicated in the terms of reference to express their interest in this call.

The interested consultant must submit their application indicating that they meet the requirements for the position concerned (CVs, references concerning the completion of similar contracts, experience in a similar field, experience under similar conditions, etc).

The selection will be based on the rules contained in the CORAF manual of administrative, financial and accounting procedures.

Interested candidates can obtain further information from the CORAF Executive Secretariat via e.kpadonou@coraf.org ; n.lamien@coraf.org with copy to procurement@coraf.org.
Expressions of interest must be submitted by e-mail to the following address: **procurement@coraf.org no later than July 18, 2025, at 17:00 GMT**.

The Executive Director
Dr Moumini SAVADOGO

TERMS OF REFERENCE

For the recruitment of an individual consultant to produce a manuscript based on the results of the evaluation of the climate-smart characteristics of technologies used in FSRP countries.

---

1. Context

Efforts to make West African agriculture more resilient are primarily focused on the development and dissemination of technologies and innovations. Despite these efforts to provide and make agricultural technologies and innovations (T&I) available to smallholder farmers, there is a gap between the availability of T&Is and their effective use. Inadequate adoption and use of agricultural T&Is is one of the factors hindering agricultural transformation in West Africa. There is a consensus among key stakeholders and partners that the scaling, the effective adoption and the adequate use of existing technologies will have a significant impact on livelihoods and overall economic growth in the region. CORAF has prioritized the scaling up of proven agricultural technologies in its current strategic plan (2018-2027) and is taking the lead in coordinating regional initiatives to scale up and facilitate the effective use of agricultural technologies. The World Bank significantly supports CORAF in this mission with two important regional projects: (i) the West Africa Food Systems Resilience Program (FSRP) and (ii) the Accelerating the Impacts of CGIAR Climate Research for Africa (AICCRA).

The Food Systems Resilience Program (FSRP) is a flagship regional investment program aimed at strengthening the resilience of the food system in West Africa through a strategic regional approach. The FSRP invests in three mutually reinforcing thematic areas: (i) Digital advisory services for the prevention and management of agricultural and food crises; (ii) Sustainability and adaptability of the productive base of the food system (sustainable land and watershed management, agroecological approaches); and (iii) Market integration and trade (regional development of commodity value chains).

On the other hand, the CGIAR Research Program on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS) in West Africa and CORAF have collaborated over the past decade to lead numerous efforts at the regional and national levels, bringing together researchers and policymakers to revitalize a genuine mutual commitment to addressing the challenges of climate change. Building on this work, the AICCRA project is helping CORAF to advance this agenda and provide technical support to stakeholders in the adoption of agricultural T&I in the region.

AICCRA is helping to build a climate-smart African future, driven by science and innovation in agriculture. It is led by the Alliance Bioversity International and CIAT and supported by a grant from the World Bank's International Development Association (IDA). AICCRA works to increase access to climate information services and smart agricultural technologies for millions of smallholder farmers in Africa. AICCRA's investments are concentrated in six anchor countries: Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Mali, Senegal, and Zambia.

Both programs focus on delivering proven agricultural technologies and innovations to stakeholders in West Africa. However, it has been proven that climate change-related issues must be addressed in a local context. The challenge is to know which technologies and innovations

should be used to shift paradigms in climate change adaptation, transforming West African agriculture by making it more resilient. Indeed, many stakeholders involved in the process of scaling up and adopting agricultural technologies and innovations in West Africa are still unsure of what constitutes a climate-smart technology and the methodology (including criteria) to use to select a particular T&I in the local context. It now appears that, for greater effectiveness and impact, T&I that could potentially be used in Climate-Smart Agriculture (CSA) require prior assessment before they can be used. Validating the climate-smart characteristics of these CSA options necessarily requires rigorous evaluation. There are scientifically proven tools and methods that can be used or adapted to carry out these evaluation activities. There are efforts to adapt these methodologies to the CSA context, but very few of them are known and used by technicians and other stakeholders in West Africa.

In 2023 and 2025, CORAF, the Alliance Bioversity and CIAT, through the AICCRA project, in collaboration with the FSRP and with financial support from the World Bank, organized two regional training workshops (one in West Africa and a second in Central Africa) on the use of a robust methodology to assess the climate-smart characteristics of existing T&I. These training sessions were highly appreciated by the participants, mainly the practical aspects to which more time was devoted. Based on these excellent results, many other stakeholders have requested to benefit from the same capacity building. To respond to these requests, CORAF, in collaboration with the Alliance Bioversity and CIAT, organized another regional workshop for FSRP countries to take advantage of this methodology and assessed the climate smartness of their T&I to be deployed in each country participating in the program. This regional capacity building session was run in form of training- action workshop for national FSRP implementation units to facilitate the appropriate use of CSA technologies and innovations.

2. Mission objective

The main objective of this mission is to use results from the workshop on the evaluation of the climate-smart characteristics of the technologies and innovations used in the FSRP countries to produce a manuscript.

Specifically, this will involve:

- To expand on the results of the first analysis with a more in-depth literature review and collect metadata on agricultural technologies and innovations used in the FSRP countries,
- Evaluate the climate-smart characteristics of the technologies and innovations using a rigorous methodology,
- Write and revise a draft of a scientific paper on the subject.

3. Tasks

The consultant will have to:

- Conduct a systematic literature review on technologies and innovations used in FSRP countries,
- Build a database from the systematic review using the principles of metadata analysis,
- Analyze data to evaluate climate-smartness of the technologies and innovations,
- Write a draft scientific article based on the results obtained,
- Contribute to the submission and monitoring of the article in a peer review journal,
- Contribute to the correction of the article according to the recommendations and comments of the reviewers

4. Deliverables

- An inception report describing the understanding of the mission, the working methodology and the mission agenda
- A complete database
- A draft of the article that documents the process and the results obtained
- An end of mission report

5. Consultant Profile

The consultant should:

- Hold a Master's or PhD in agronomy, natural resource management, climate change or any diploma deemed equivalent;
- Have at least 10 years of experience in the field;
- Have proven experience in climate-smart agriculture in West Africa;
- Master tools and methods of statistical analysis and mainly metadata analysis;
- Have at least one scientific article of "systematic review" and one of "metadata analysis" type in the field of agriculture and climate change,
- Master French and English.

6. Duration and location of the mission

The duration of this assignment will be thirty (30) days over the period from August to October 2025 and the consultant will work from the location where he is based.

7. Application and selection procedure

Interested persons should send their expression of interest with detailed CV to the address **procurement@coraf.org**, no later than **July 18, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. GMT.**

Interested candidates can obtain further information from the CORAF Executive Secretariat via e.kpadonou@coraf.org ; n.lamien@coraf.org with copy to procurement@coraf.org.

The selection will be based on the rules contained in the CORAF manual of administrative, financial and accounting procedures.

NB: Kindly note that only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

CORRUPTION, CONFLICTS OF INTEREST, SEXUAL EXPLOITATION, ABUSE AND HARASSMENT

Fraud, corruption: *bidders, suppliers, contractors and their subcontractors must observe the strictest rules of ethical conduct when signing and performing contracts. In particular, they must avoid any act of corruption and any fraudulent, collusive, coercive or obstructive maneuvers with the aim of granting or obtaining a contract awarded by CORAF. Any deviant behavior will be subject to appropriate sanctions (cancellation of the contract, exclusion from future contracts awarded by CORAF, dismissal of CORAF staff guilty of these acts.*

Conflicts of interest: *CORAF rules require that any company participating in a procurement procedure is not in a situation of conflict of interest. Two scenarios can be considered:*

- *The company provides goods, works or services (other than consulting services) which follow or are directly related to the consulting services for the preparation or performance of a project which it has provided or which its affiliated company has provided;*
- *The company (including its staff) has a close business or family relationship with a CORAF staff member: i) who is directly or indirectly involved in the preparation of the bidding documents or contract specifications, and/or in the evaluation process for said contract; or*

(ii) who could be involved in the performance or supervision of the same contract.

*The term "**Sexual Exploitation and Abuse** (SEA)" includes the following meanings:*

- *"**Sexual Exploitation**" (SE), defined as abusing or attempting to abuse a state of vulnerability, differential power or trust for sexual purposes, including but not limited to profiting monetarily, socially or politically from the sexual exploitation of another person;*
- *"**Sexual Abuse**" (SA), defined as any physical intrusion or threatened physical intrusion of a sexual nature, either by force or under unequal conditions or by coercion;*
- *"**Sexual Harassment**" (SH) is defined as any unwelcome sexual advance, request for sexual favors or other verbal or physical behavior with a sexual connotation by Contractor staff towards other Contractor staff. or the Client;*

Any company that proves to be in a situation of conflict of interest or of sexual exploitation, abuse or harassment will not be granted a contract from CORAF.

(End of the document)