

CALL FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Recruitment of a team of two consultants for the preparation of a regional programme for the development and promotion of Climate Smart Agriculture in West Africa

Opening of the call: April 24, 2024

Closing date: May 8, 2024

CEIN°08-2024

Climate change is a global phenomenon with increasing implications for many facets of human life. The agricultural sector was initially identified as a source of greenhouse gas emissions. However, it is the sector most affected by the scourge of climate disruption.

Under the European Commission's Development Smart Innovation through Research in Agriculture (DeSIRA) initiative, CORAF has received funding to stimulate the transformation of innovation in agricultural and food systems in West and Central Africa in order to make them more resilient to climate change and better meet development demands through the CAADP-XP4 project.

As part of the implementation of the 2023 activities of the CAADPXP4 project, CORAF has planned a series of regional consultations in West Africa which will lead to the consolidation of the CSA Alliance in West Africa. One of these first actions is the organisation of a regional workshop to define the orientation and structuring components of a regional support programme for CSA development to improve the resilience of agricultural and food systems to climate shocks in West Africa.

The Executive Director of CORAF invites teams of two consultants with the required qualifications as indicated in the terms of reference to express their interest in this call for proposals.

Teams of two (2) consultants who are interested in this call must provide information indicating that they are qualified to deliver such services (references concerning the completion of similar contracts, CVs, experience in a similar field, experience under similar conditions, etc.).

The qualified team of two (2) consultants will be selected according to the rules contained in the CORAF Manual of Administrative, Financial and Accounting Procedures.

Interested team of consultants may obtain further information from the CORAF Executive Secretariat by sending an email to the following address a.ngaido@coraf.org copying procurement@coraf.org.

Expressions of interest must be submitted by email to the following address: procurement@coraf.org no later than **May 8, 2024 at 5.00 pm GMT**.

Dr Alioune FALL
Acting Executive Director of CORAF



TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme ex-Pillar 4 (CAADP-XP4)

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR

The recruitment of a team of two consultants for the preparation of a regional programme for the development and promotion of Climate smart Agriculture in West Africa.

CAADP XP4 Activity 2.3.4: Establish a fund for equitable support in proposal development including international expertise-Consultants to develop two CSA programs

I. BACKGROUND

Climate change is a global phenomenon with increasing implications for many facets of human life. The agricultural sector was initially identified as a source of greenhouse gas emissions. However, it is the sector most affected by the scourge of climate disruption. Prior to the increase in climate change-related constraints, African agriculture faced the chronic challenges of low soil fertility, severe pest pressure (crop and livestock pests and diseases), lack of human resource training and a shortage of improved technologies. Africa's agricultural sector also suffers from a huge lack of investment in infrastructure, supportive policies, unstructured growth planning and quality services. The climate change challenges facing African agriculture remain at the heart of the concerns of national governments, regional organisations and development partners.

Agricultural Research for Development (AR4D) is at the heart of the delivery of climate-relevant agricultural technologies and innovations that contribute to the achievement of the commitments under the SDGs and Agenda 2063, in particular by increasing the resilience of agricultural and food systems to climate change, among other things.

Under the European Commission's Development Smart Innovation through Research in Agriculture (DeSIRA) initiative, CORAF has received funding to stimulate the transformation of innovation in agricultural and food systems in West and Central Africa in order to make them more resilient to climate change and better meet development demands through the CAADP-XP4 project.

It has become clearer that a supportive policy environment is key to the uptake of scientific research findings. In addition, policy makers need to be supported in making evidence-based decisions in order to create an enabling policy environment. Therefore, CORAF is capitalising on

previous efforts to bring scientists and policy makers together on the same platform in order to revitalise the effective engagement of these stakeholders in addressing the challenges of climate-smart agriculture in West Africa. Therefore, from 5 to 7 October 2021, CORAF organised a regional consultation to revitalize the Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) Alliance in West Africa. The meeting ended with recommendations aimed essentially at defining the intervention framework for the Alliance for Climate-Smart Agriculture in West Africa.

As part of the implementation of the 2023 activities of the CAADPXP4 project, CORAF has planned a series of regional consultations in West Africa which will lead to the consolidation of the CSA Alliance in West Africa. One of the first actions is the organisation of a regional workshop to define the orientation and structuring components of a regional programme to support the development of CSA to improve the resilience of agricultural and food systems to climate shocks in West Africa. The workshop was held from 15 to 17 May 2023 in Pointe Sarene, Senegal. The workshop was focused on three main sessions: (i) Discussions on the basics of CSA and current experiences in West Africa and other regions; (ii) Consolidation of the current state of affairs of the CSA development process in West Africa; (iii) Definition of the orientation and structuring components (overall objective, specific objective, expected results, components) of a regional programme. For this last point, the challenges/ problems facing agriculture in West Africa were identified by the participants during the breakout sessions. The participants also suggested solutions in the form of activities or sets of activities that could be carried out to address these challenges. The potential impacts hoped for/ expected from the implementation of these activities were also collected, as well as the hypotheses/ measurement indicators.

Following these encouraging results, CORAF is looking for team of two consultants to finalise the development of a concept note and document of a regional programme for West Africa.

II. OBJECTIVES OF THE MISSION

The main objective of the mission is to draw up a concept note and a detailed programme for the development and promotion of Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) in West Africa.

The specific objectives of the mission are as follows:

- Draw up a methodological note and a detailed schedule for the assignment
- Draw up a concept note for the programme to be submitted for validation
- Draw up the 1st draft of the technical and fiduciary documents and the implementation mechanism for a detailed regional CSA-West Africa programme,
- Finalise the drafting of the programme documents (in a co-construction process) with the stakeholders of the CSA-Alliance in West Africa,
- Suggest sources and mechanisms for mobilising funds to finance the programme.

III. EXPECTED RESULTS

The expected results are as follows:

- A programme concept note of no more than 20 pages describing the research and development context and issues, the objectives and priority areas and actions, the areas of intervention and beneficiaries, the coordination and implementation mechanisms and a draft Theory of Change.
- A detailed regional CSA-West Africa programme with a narrative of technical and fiduciary activities and operational strategies for coordination, monitoring-evaluation and reporting, validated by the members of the CSA-Alliance in West Africa;
- Possible sources of funding for the programme are identified and the programme documents are formatted accordingly (based on the criteria of the chosen donor).

IV. METHODOLOGY

The consultant team will propose a detailed methodology to be adopted for this mission. This methodology must follow a participatory approach (consultative and technical meetings) and validated by the CORAF technical team before the activity is carried out. In addition, the CORAF team will provide the necessary documents resulting from the co-construction workshops for the definition of the components of the CSA-West Africa programme.

V. MANDATE OF THE CONSULTING GROUP

As a general rule, the main tasks assigned to the consultants are as follows:

- Get themselves familiar with the documents resulting from the previous workshops, as well as the problems/ challenges, solutions/ activities and expected impacts as identified by the members of the CSA-Alliance in West Africa,
- Undertake consultations and technical meetings with potential partners and stakeholders (CORAF experts, CSA Alliances, similar projects and programmes, development partners).
- Prepare draft versions of programme documents and outputs (methodological note, concept note, detailed project documents).
- Participate in feedback and validation meetings
- Achieve the final versions.

More specifically, each expert will be required to carry out the following tasks:

a. An expert in the planning, development and management of agricultural projects and programmes (Head of Mission)

- Ensure coordination within the team and act as an interface with CORAF
- Analyse, reformulate (if need be) and prioritise the challenges and problems identified by the members of the CSA-WA Alliance at the Pointe Sarene workshop (Senegal);
- Analyse the institutional situation and the internal and external environment for implementing the programme;
- Reorganise and reformulate the development objective, subsidiary objectives and activities proposed by the members of the CSA-WA Alliance for the CSA-WA programme;
- Analyse and reformulate the chain of results and potential impacts expected from the implementation of these activities;
- Establish the theory of change and conceptual framework for the programme;
- Propose a detailed implementation plan for each of the programme's intervention areas;
- Define the indicators for monitoring and evaluating the programme's activities and results (effects and impacts);
- Define the coordination and implementation mechanisms as well as the partnerships, synergies and governance needed to achieve greater impact and sustainability.
- Develop the programme's results framework;
- Contribute to the development of the programme's budget and investment plan
- Contribute to the formatting of programme documents for submission to donors
- Contribute to the search for funding sources for the programme.

b. A Climate Smart Agriculture specialist (Associate expert)

- Conduct a literature review to identify the major challenges and problems facing agriculture in West Africa in the context of climate change.

- Identify bottlenecks in the scaling up of CSA initiatives, technologies and innovation and suggest possible solutions.
- Carry out the basic analyses needed to understand the starting situation (without a project);
- Propose, in the light of the challenges identified, relevant research and development and capacity-building activities for systems and stakeholders that can be carried out as part of the CSA-WA programme.
- Contribute to the reformulation of programme activities and impacts/ outcomes;
- Draw up the context and justification for the programme from the climate change and agriculture perspective, which should contain the programme's climate rationale;
- Contribute to the drafting of the programme's theory of change and conceptual framework;
- Contribute to the drafting of the programme's budget and investment plan
- Contribute to the formatting of programme documents for submission to potential donors
- Contribute to the search for funding sources for the programme

VI. Deliverables

- 1- A detailed methodological note describing the mission, the approach to be considered, the sequential stages and the schedule.
- 2- Draft and final documents for the regional CSA programme, in particular the concept note and the detailed programme document.
- 3- PowerPoint presentation materials (to be presented at feedback and validation meetings).
- 4- An end-of-mission report

The working language can be either French or English.

VII. CONSULTANTS' PROFILES

a. An expert in the planning, development and management of agricultural projects and programmes (Head of Mission)

- Hold a Master's or PhD degree in development project management, agronomy, climate change, or any other similar field;
- Have a minimum of 10 years' experience in the design and management of development projects in the agricultural and climate change sectors;
- Have already drafted and obtained funding for at least three regional projects on climate change and agriculture, including at least one on CSA for an international or regional organisation;
- Have a very good knowledge of climate change funding systems and mechanisms in West and Central Africa;
- Have a good knowledge of Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) and the challenges related to agricultural development in West and Central Africa;
- Good writing, synthesis and communication skills;
- Experience as head of a similar mission with a multidisciplinary team.
- Fluency in French and English.

b. A Climate Smart Agriculture specialist (Associate expert)

- Hold a Master's or PhD degree in agronomy, climate change or any other similar field;
- At least 10 years' experience in the field of climate change and its relation to agriculture;

- At least 5 years' practical experience in climate-smart agriculture;
- Have already written/contributed to and obtained funding for at least three regional projects on climate change and agriculture, including at least one on CSA for an international or regional organisation;
- Have a very good knowledge of climate change funding systems and mechanisms in West and Central Africa;
- Have a good knowledge of the challenges linked to agricultural research and development in West and Central Africa.
- Good writing, synthesis and communication skills;
- Fluency in French and English.

VIII. Duration and location of the mission

The duration of this assignment will be three (03) months, from May to July 2024, for a total of:

- 48 man/day for the planning expert (Head of Mission)
- 42 Man/day for Climate Smart Agriculture expert

The consultants will work virtually from the location where they are based and may travel for consultations with members of the CSA Alliance and CORAF team as required.

The consultants will work in close collaboration with CORAF's CAADP-XP4 programme coordination.

IX. Application and selection procedure

Interested candidates should send their expression of interest as a team of two consultants with a comprehensive curriculum vitae by e-mail to procurement@coraf.org no later than **May 7, 2024 at 5:00 pm GMT**, specifying the position for which they are applying in the subject line.

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.

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