



Call Opening date: January 27, 2009

Call Closing date: February 26, 2009

Terms of Reference for the Recruitment of a

Coordinator for the Kano/Katsina/Maradi (KKM) Pilot Learning Site
(PLS) of the Sub-Saharan Africa Challenge Program (SSA CP)

Background

The Challenge Programmes (CPs) constitute a *"large multi-institutional research programmes addressing specific problem areas of regional or global significance using expertise and competence of existing Centre programmes and expanded research and development partnerships"*. The Sub-Sahara CP is a continent-wide Program led by Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA). FARA is the technical arm of African Union Commission on rural economy and agricultural development. FARA leads the AU/NEPAD/CAADP's fourth pillar involving agricultural research, technology dissemination and uptake.

The PLS of the SSA CP is managed by the Sub-Regional Organizations. CORAF/WECARD, for West and Central Africa, is mandated to manage the implementation of the KKM PLS of the SSA CP.

CORAF/WECARD is currently seeking to recruit a Coordinator for the KKM PLS of the SSA CP; the coordinator shall be based at Kano, Nigeria. The Coordinator shall work under the direct supervision of the Director of Programs of CORAF/WECARD.

Summary of duties

- Responsible for providing scientific and administrative leadership in developing, planning and implementing a coherent research for development program in the KKM PLS in accordance with the contractual requirements of the FARA through CORAF/WECARD.
- Facilitate and coordinate the inputs of support service-providers (namely participatory monitoring, evaluation and impact assessment, capacity development and mentoring, organizational and institutional change,

methodology analysis, knowledge management and information exchange) into KKM PLS projects.

- Document research processes, outputs, lessons and experiences at PLS level and carry out analysis to develop International Public Goods and implement communication, information and knowledge management strategies at the PLS level and support the out-scaling and up-scaling of concepts underpinning the SSA-CP namely IAR4D and innovation systems.
- Facilitate and coordinate internal and external evaluation of outcomes and impact with PLS.
- Facilitate disbursements of funds, accounting and submission of financial reports by taskforces, monitor and oversee implementation of taskforce activities and facilitate exchange of lessons and experiences with other pilot learning sites.
- Initiate linkages and partnerships between taskforces and cross-site projects with other programs that add-value to the SSA-CP.
- Develop and implement internal and external monitoring & evaluation and impact strategies for the project, including MTP with Task Forces (TF) and preparation of work-plans and budgets for approval by the CORAF/WECARD Governing system.
- Ensure science quality for the proof of concept and learning (at farmer, village, district, national, regional and Africa wide levels) to generate International Public Goods.
- Collate technical and financial reports received from TF for submission to CORAF/WECARD
- Facilitate and coordinate cross-site research teams into KMM PLS projects.
- Facilitate links with other organizations, programs and projects, including other CORAF/WECARD regional projects
- Implement communication, information and knowledge management systems at PLS level and support scaling out of results and development of scientific database
- Facilitate linkages and partnerships between TF and cross-site projects with other programs that add-value to the SSA-CP and facilitate exchange of lessons and experiences with other PLS.
- Procure and manage assets of the project (vehicle, office equipment, etc.)
- Perform any other related duties that shall be assigned by the Director of Programs to ensure the efficient management of the research and development programs to achieve the objectives and mission of CORAF/WECARD

Minimum Qualifications and desired requirements

1. A PhD or its equivalent in agriculture sciences or related discipline, agricultural economics, Natural Resources Management, or agricultural extension. The candidate must have a demonstrated knowledge of agricultural research for development in Africa.
2. The successful candidate must have at least eight years experience in agricultural research in West and Central Africa. A demonstrated

experience in integrated agricultural research for development will be an advantage.

3. The candidate must have a demonstrated management and interpersonal and teamwork skills, especially in working with the rural communities in formulating their demands on research.
4. Strong analytical, written and oral communication skills
5. Ability to prepare good quality proposals based on demand-driven research
6. Ability to use the Microsoft group of soft-wares - word, spread-sheets, Microsoft powerpoint, excel, etc.
7. Ability to work under pressure, and willingness to travel within the zone on short notice.
8. Language proficiency: Fluency in English and good command of the French language or vice versa (level C).
9. Readiness to assume duties within a short notice would be a plus.

Submission of application:

- An application letter must be submitted along with detailed CV. The CV must include complete contact details of the applicant (postal, e-mail, phone, fax); and contact details of three of the applicants referees.
- The application dossier should be addressed to the Executive Director of CORAF/WECARD, Executive Secretariat, N° 7, Avenue Bourguiba, BP 48 Dakar-RP, Senegal. Applications are accepted **ONLY** through e-mails which should be sent to secoraf@coraf.org
- Applications should reach the Secretariat by **February 26, 2009**. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted for interview.
- CORAF/WECARD policy requires the successful candidate to undertake and pass medical examinations prior a formal contract.

Duration of Contract

- An initial one year contract will be offered to the successful candidate. The contract could be renewed following a successful work performance evaluation.

Salary and benefits

- A professional salary scale which is internationally competitive will be proposed.