



Call for Expression of Interest

**FOR THE RECRUITMENT OF A REGIONAL CONSULTANT TO EVALUATE THE
IMPACT OF ‘THE POST-EBOLA INITIATIVE ON BENEFICIARY POPULATIONS IN
LIBERIA, SIERRA LEONE AND GUINEA’**

OPENING DATE: 8th September, 2017

CLOSING DATE: 14th September, 2017

CEI N° 12-2017 – Relaunch

The West and Central African Council for Agricultural Research and Development (CORAF/WECARD), through the West Africa Agricultural Productivity Program (WAAPP) and the West Africa Seed Program (WASP), in collaboration with AfricaRice coordinated an initiative to mobilize foundation seed and certified seed from eight Member States to supply the three countries.

In this context, CORAF/WECARD in collaboration with the WAAPP Project Coordination Units of the affected countries plans to conduct a study on the effects and changes induced in terms of reconstruction of the seed capital, the improvement of agricultural production and the sustainability of the achievements of the initiative.

The Executive Secretariat of the West and Central African Council for Research and Agricultural Development (CORAF/WECARD) intends to recruit a highly qualified Expert to evaluate the impact of the “The Post -Ebola initiative on beneficiary populations in Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea.

CORAF/WECARD now invites eligible applicants for the position mentioned above. Interested applicants may obtain more information in the ToR attached below. The individual Consultant will be selected using the selection based on the individual consultant (IC) method in accordance with the World Bank guidelines on “Selection and Employment of Consultants under IBRD loans and IDA Credits & Grants by World Bank Borrowers, January 2011, revised on July 2014”

The evaluation mission will run from September to October 2017 for 40 man /days.

The consultants interested in this call must submit an Expression of Interest comprising: (i) references concerning the execution and experience of similar contracts and (ii) their CVs.

Expressions of Interest (EoI) must be submitted by e-mail at the following address: procurement@coraf.org not later than the **14th September 2017 at 12:00 GMT**.

CORAF/WECARD Executive Secretariat reserves the right to accept or reject any or all of the EoI or annul the EoI process at any stage without assigning any reason(s) whatsoever and without incurring any liability to the affected applicants(s).

Dr Abdou TENKOUANO
Executive Director of CORAF/WECARD



TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE RECRUITMENT OF A REGIONAL CONSULTANT TO EVALUATE THE IMPACT OF ‘THE POST-EBOLA INITIATIVE ON BENEFICIARY POPULATIONS IN LIBERIA, SIERRA LEONE AND GUINEA’

I – BACKGROUND AND JUSTIFICATION

As a result of the Ebola outbreak between 2014 and 2015 in West Africa, food insecurity increased considerably in the three most affected countries - Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone. While external food aid was needed, the ECOWAS, with the support of financial partners and the leaders of the Member States, recognized the need to mobilize resources so as to revive agricultural production. Access to seeds was identified as a priority intervention to safeguard the achievements of the 2015 crop year and beyond.

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II – Objectives of the Study

The overall objective of the study is to measure the changes induced/impact on the beneficiary population as a result of the implementation of the initiative in the 3 affected countries. Specifically, the study will:

-) Analyze the perception of the beneficiaries;
-) Measure and analyze the effects of the intervention on reviving the agricultural activities after the crisis;
-) Measure the impact of the intervention on the sustainable increase in production of targeted crops, food security, and livelihood improvement including income;
-) Analyze the impact of the intervention on the turnover and business volumes of seed companies (national and sub-regional) involved in seed supply and distribution;

-) Identify lessons learned from the implementation of the intervention and analyze the implications for the future;

III. Approach and Methodology

The Regional Consultant will develop a detailed methodology for the evaluation, including the evaluation plan and the analysis framework for the evaluation report. Among other things, the evaluation methodology shall provide details on the evaluation methods with particular attention to the information to be collected. He/she shall also provide details on the description of the data collection methods, the data collection instruments, the information sources and the types of data analysis. Prior to its implementation, the methodology selected should be shared with WAAPP-Guinea, WAAPP-Liberia, WAAPP-Sierra Leone and relevant CORAF/WECARD departments for the assessment of its robustness and its ability to deliver unbiased results.

For the interpretation of the results obtained at the end of the evaluation, all available sources of information will be used, including testimonies from different categories of people: project staff, partners, beneficiaries, key stakeholders, etc.

Data will be collected following surveys based on a representative sampling of the population, including beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries of the Program. This will make it possible to better compare these two groups.

The Consultant will:

-) Propose an implementation plan for the evaluation assignment, which shall be validated by CORAF/WECARD;
-) Provide assessment tools based on the evaluation questions;
-) Collect, compile and analyze primary and secondary data and information;
-) Draft evaluation reports and submit them for comments.

III. Expected Results and Deliverables

The main deliverables include: The Evaluation Start Note; the preliminary qualitative survey report; the improved and validated data collection tools; the draft progress report of the evaluation validated by CORAF/WECARD; and the draft final evaluation report validated by CORAF/WECARD.

The evaluation report shall be prepared according to the following specifications:

-) Contents;
-) Executive summary and recommendations;
-) Introduction (project, area of intervention, objectives of the evaluation, background of the evaluation and methodology and limitations);
-) Reminder of logical conceptual models and evaluative questions;
-) Responses to evaluation questions (project outcome and impact);
-) Sustainability of interventions and prospects;
-) Lessons learned;
-) Conclusion and recommendations;
-) Annexes (interview guide, questionnaires, do-files ...).

A summary of the evaluation shall be also prepared in Word and PowerPoint. All reports and presentations shall make extensive use of visual aids (photos, graphics, etc.). These documents will be used for the dissemination of the evaluation results.

Results expected at the end of the study include:

-) The preliminary impact of the Post-Ebola Initiative is well documented;
-) Financial partners are informed of how the intervention was beneficial to beneficiaries;
-) The National and Regional Coordination is aware of the impact of its activities on the populations and the seed companies involved.

V. Tasks to be performed

The work will include:

- A documentary review and close work with all the actors of WAAPP-Guinea, WAAPP-Liberia, WAAPP-Sierra Leone and the various partners involved in project implementation;
- A preliminary qualitative survey to understand the mode of interventions and better define the Impact Pathway;
- Establishment of the necessary sampling frames and determination of sample drawing methods;
- Development of data collection tools and establishment of a detailed plan for the implementation of the surveys;
- Recruitment and training of investigators;
- Data collection (focus on face-to-face interviews using tablets);
- Data processing and analysis which should produce and interpret the results on all the indicators selected, including disaggregation based on the administrative level and the integration of gender aspect as much as possible;
- Submission of the various survey reports as well as different survey data carriers and results of the various data analyzes;

The survey shall be conducted on direct and indirect beneficiaries throughout the selected project area across the national territory of the countries concerned.

VI. Consultant's Profile

The assignment will be led by a Senior Evaluation Officer (Regional Consultant). The latter will coordinate the activities and he/she will be held accountable for the conduct of the study. He/she must have proven experience in the field of agricultural research. He/she will be responsible for the quality of the data (validity, reliability, consistency and accuracy). More specifically, he/she must:

-) Hold a Master's or Ph.D. degree in Economics/Statistics or in Agroeconomics. A Ph.D. degree would be a true asset.
-) Have at least five years' experience in assessing the impact of rural development projects;
-) Have performed similar tasks in recent years with relevant references;
-) Have a good knowledge of the seed sector in West Africa;
-) Have good knowledge of data analysis software (R, SPSS, STATA, ...);
-) Have good drafting, analysis and synthesis skills;
-) Be fluent in French and English;
-) Have proven ability to lead a multidisciplinary team.

Profile of National Consultants

The Regional Consultant will work with the M&E Specialist or WAAPP resource persons in the three countries who will assist him/her in his/her tasks of data collection. The national Consultant must:

-) Hold a Master's degree in Economics/Statistics or in Agroeconomics.
-) Have proven experience in data collection and analysis;

-) Have a good knowledge of the national context and the *Ebola Reconstruction Recovery Trust Fund (ERRTF) Initiative*;
-) Have good mastery of IT tools (Word, Excel, PowerPoint) and analytical software (R, SPSS, STATA) will be an asset.

1. IV. Duration of the Assignment and Timeframes

The evaluation mission will run from September to October 2017 for 40 man /days.