



CALL FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Recruitment of a pair of consultants for the facilitation of the ECOWAS workshop on the Regional Centers of Excellence

Opening of the call: 16/03/2018

Closure of the call: 26/03/2018

CEI N° 13-2018

1. The West and Central African Council for Agricultural Research and Development (CORAF/WECARD) intends to recruit of a pair of consultants for the facilitation of the ECOWAS workshop on the Regional Centers of Excellence.
2. The consultant's tasks are described in the terms of reference attached to this call.
3. The Executive Director of CORAF/WECARD invites Consultants from West and Central Africa to express their interest to provide services as described above.
4. Individual consultants should provide a record of expression of interest consisting of:
(i) references concerning the performance and experience of similar services, (iii) and their updated CV.
5. The consultants will be selected according to the agreement defined in the Directives: "Selection and Use of Consultants within the framework of IBRD loans, AID credits, and the subsidies by the Borrowers of the World Bank", dated January 2011, revised on July 2014.
6. The interested consultants can obtain extra information about the reference documents from David AKANA (n.lamien@coraf.org) and at the following hours 8:30 to 12:00

and 15:00 to 17:00 GMT. For more information you will find in the appendix the terms of reference of the mission.

7. The manifestation of interest must be submitted by e-mail at the following address: procurement@coraf.org , and sent at the latest on **26 march, 2018 to 10:00 GMT**.

Dr Abdou TENKOUANO
Executive Director of CORAF/WECARD



**Terms of references for the recruitment of a pair of consultants for the facilitation of the
ECOWAS workshop on the Regional Centers of Excellence.**

Dakar, Senegal, from 5th to 7th April 2018, Saly, SENEGAL

1 Introduction

The West Africa Agricultural Productivity Program (WAAPP) was initiated by the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) with financial support from the World Bank and the participating countries to support regional cooperation in agriculture in Africa. The objective of the program is to « intensify the production, the dissemination and the adoption of improved technologies in the participating countries' top agricultural commodities that are aligned with the sub-region's top agricultural commodity priorities as outlined in the ECOWAP ». The regional coordination was entrusted to CORAF/WECARD. The WAAPP approach is based, on the one hand, on the integration and harmonization of national agricultural policies and, on the other, on the establishment of close links between research, extension, the producers and the private operators on priority speculations.

With a total duration of 10 years, the WAAPP is a series of adaptive programmatic loans (APL) and is implemented in two phases for each country. Currently, three sets of WAAPP are being implemented: the WAAPP 2A brings together Mali, Senegal and Ghana, the WAAPP 1B involves Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire and Nigeria and the WAAPP 1C, which is composed of Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, The Gambia, Guinea, Liberia, Niger, Sierra Leone and Togo.

The program has four components: (i) Strengthening the enabling conditions for regional cooperation for the generation, dissemination and adoption of agricultural technologies; (ii) Strengthening the national research systems through the establishment of national centers of specialization; (iii) Support to demand-driven technology generation, dissemination and adoption; (iv) Project management and coordination.

Within the second component of the program and in order to meet the need for the mutualization of the subregional agricultural research and development resources, which is one of its guiding principles, nine (09) national centers of specialization (NCoS) focused on the priority crops identified from a study commissioned by CORAF/WECARD were established. They are as follows: The NCoS on dry cereals, in Senegal, the NCoS on rice, in Mali, the NCoS on roots and tubers, in Ghana, the NCoS on banana-plantain in Côte d'Ivoire, the NCoS on fruits and vegetables, in Burkina Faso, the NCoS on aquaculture in Nigeria, the NCoS on Maize in Benin, the NCoS on Mangrove Rice in Sierra Leone, the NCoS on livestock, meat and milk in Niger. In the process of supporting the NCoS in their transformation into RCoE, CORAF/WECARD commissioned a first evaluation of their level of maturation into RCoE in accordance with the criteria defined during the 2014 Lomé I workshop. This evaluation facilitated the identification of the progress made by each NCoS for its transformation into an RCoE and that of the challenges to address in order to achieve this objective. Consequently, each NCoS developed and tried to implement an action plan to address the performance gaps.

In order to evaluate the progress achieved compared to the first evaluation, CORAF/WECARD commissioned a second evaluation of the degree of maturation of these NCoS into RCoE. This

was all the more timely because the first generation of NCoS implemented in the framework of the WAAPP A had 10 years of experience at the end of 2017 and should, at this stage, be able to acquire the qualification of WAAPP Regional Center of Excellence with the label of ECOWAS Center of Excellence.

The team of consultants commissioned for this evaluation has just completed the second evaluation of the 9 NCoS and CORAF proposes to present the conclusions to research stakeholders and political decision-makers. The current TORs are developed to facilitate the organization of this restitution workshop.

2 Objectives of the workshop

The main objective of the workshop is to share the conclusions of the second evaluation of the NCoS in their transformation process into RCoE and to agree on the next steps.

3 Expected results

The results expected from the workshop are as follows:

- The participants in the workshop are informed on the degree of maturation of each NCoS and on the remaining challenges to address;
- The participants have agreed on the form of support to provide to the NCoS meeting the criteria to be accredited as Regional Centers of Excellence;
- A roadmap for the accreditation process into ECOWAS RCoE is developed;
- Revised action plans are produced by the NCoS that have not met the criteria of maturation into Regional Centers of Excellence yet.

4 Tasks of the consultants

In order to achieve the expected results, the main consultant will:

- Develop the workshop agenda and possibly TORs for group works;
- Facilitate the plenary discussions and group works in accordance with the established TORs;
- Draft the synthesis of participants' contributions.

The second consultant will be responsible for:

- Taking the minutes;
- Producing the workshop report;
- Producing a draft (to be approved by the main consultant) accreditation request letter for the NCoS that have not met the criteria of maturation into ECOWAS Regional Centers of Excellence yet.

5 Deliverables

1. An inception report describing the understanding of the facilitation mission, the facilitation methodology and the workshop agenda;
2. A final workshop report describing the main conclusions of the meeting and the roadmap for the follow-up to the conclusions.

6 Profile of the consultant

Main consultant

1. A Master's degree in areas related to the agricultural sector or any other degree considered as equivalent; a PhD will be an asset;
2. Excellent knowledge of the agricultural sector;
3. Proven experience in the facilitation/animation of workshops;
4. Proven work experience in the ECOWAS countries;
5. Fluency in French and English.

Second consultant

1. A Master's degree in areas related to the agricultural sector or any other degree considered as equivalent;
2. Excellent knowledge of the agricultural sector;
3. Proven experience in workshops reporting;
4. Fluency in French and English;
5. Very good computer skills.

7 Duration of the mission

The facilitation will cover the period March 25th to April 10th, 2018 with ten (10) working days for the main consultant and five (5) working days for the second consultant.

8 Procedures for application and selection

Interested applicants are invited to send their detailed CV. The consultants will be selected in accordance with the procedures outlined in the Guidelines: "Selection and Employment of Consultants under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits and Grants by World Bank Borrowers", January 2011.