



CALL FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Recruitment of individuals Consultants for Regional Taxonomy Training Workshop for Fruit Fly Diagnostic Laboratory Technicians

Opening of the call: 01 / 02 / 2018

Closure of the call: 08 / 02 / 2018

CEI No 04-2018

1. Diagnostic laboratories are very important for monitoring the composition of different species, the dynamics of the fruit fly populations and for the identification of the latter. These laboratories should provide an accurate diagnosis and support training activities for technical staff in each of the beneficiary countries of the fruit fly control project (Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, The Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Mali, Senegal and Togo)
2. The PLMF project has a Training Plan and Modules, after an audit of the diagnostic laboratories of the countries involved in the project and proposals for training modules to fill the gaps in the laboratory technicians
3. .In order to make these laboratories operational, it is important that their technicians receive capacity building in the processing of samples of fruit flies, from the receipt of samples to the identification and conservation of specimens Strategy for Practicing Nutrition-Sensitive Agriculture and Food Systems in WAAPP Countries.
4. The tasks to be performed and other information relating to the conduct of the mission are detailed in the attached Terms of Reference.
5. The Executive Director of CORAF/WECARD invites consultants with the profile sought as indicated in the terms of reference to express their interest in this appeal.

6. Individual consultants should provide a record of expression of interest consisting of: (i) the methodology to be used to do the work requested, (ii) references concerning the performance and experience of similar services, (iii) and their updated CV.
7. The individual Consultant will be selected using the selection based on the individual consultant (IC) method in accordance with the CORAF/WECARD Manuel of Administrative and Financial procedure.
8. Interested consultants may obtain additional information from CORAF/WECARD Executive Secretariat by sending correspondence farma.cisse@coraf.org with copy to procurement@coraf.org from 8am to 12pm and from 15h to 17h GMT.
9. Expressions of interest must be submitted by e-mail to: procurement@coraf.org, on 08 / 02 / 2018 at 10:00 GMT at the latest.

Dr Abdou TENKOUANO

Executive director
CORAF / WECARD

**Conseil Ouest et Centre Africain pour la
Recherche et le Développement
Agricoles**



**West and Central Africa Council for
Agricultural Research and
Development**



PROJET DE SOUTIEN AU PLAN REGIONAL DE LUTTE ET DE CONTRÔLE DES MOUCHES DES FRUITS EN AFRIQUE DE L'OUEST

Termes de référence



Recruitment of a team of consultant for Regional Taxonomy Training Workshop for Fruit Fly Diagnostic Laboratory Technicians



Ce projet est cofinancé par l'Union Européenne et l'Agence Française de Développement



Projet mis en œuvre par le Consortium SOGEROM - COLEACP - BERD et le CORAF

1. General information

1.1 Background

Fruit flies are a serious threat to the survival of the fruit and vegetable sector, which contributes to balanced diet and food security of millions of people, and is also a major source of foreign exchange for countries. Every year, fruit flies cause billions of euros in losses worldwide. Interceptions at European Union borders have led to heavy losses for West African countries.

Mangoes are not the only prey to fruit flies. Indeed, the fruit and vegetable sector as a whole is at risk from these flies, as they attack different species of fruits and vegetables. Since 2004, several West African countries have increasingly been seeing a good portion of their exports rejected by the European Union and other major markets, owing to the presence of larvae and fruit flies, considered by FAO as quarantine insects.

Female fruit flies lay their eggs in the parenchyma of fruits; the larvae, which hatch from the eggs damage the fruits as they feed on them. Mangoes suffer 80 to 100 per cent losses during the rainy season. At the start of the rainy season therefore, exports have to be halted, even when most of the produce has not been harvested. Worse still, the introduction and dispersion of invasive species (*Bactrocera invadens*) led to even greater losses.

That is why under the ECOWAS Agricultural Policy (ECOWAP)/Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP)), the implementation of a fruit fly control plan has been specifically identified under component 2 of the Regional Agricultural Investment Plan (RAIP) as a priority for the National Agriculture, Food Security and Nutrition Investment Plans for ECOWAS member countries, comprising a fruit and vegetable exports sector that is already structured or in process. This ECOWAS regional agricultural policy is supported by the West Africa Regional Indicative Programme (RIP) of the 10th European Development Fund (EDF) for promoting regional projects to support (i) natural resource and agricultural development, processing and management; and (ii) productivity and competitiveness of priority agricultural sectors.

1.2 Specific project context

The support project to the regional plan for fruit flies monitoring and control in West Africa is the culmination of a long concerted effort between ECOWAS, WAEMU and mango-exporting countries. It was started in 2008 by the Rural Development and Agriculture Directorate of the ECOWAS Commission. ECOWAS initiated this project to combat the issue of fruit flies at the regional level, through coordinated effort, and at the national level, by pooling strategic approaches, surveillance and combat methods, and disseminating research findings evenly across countries affected by the problem. The project is in line with the implementation of RAIP, which, in the ECOWAS member countries, falls under the national agriculture, food security and nutrition investment plans. It is specifically identified in component 2 of RAIP.

The project, totaling €23.5 million, is funded by European Union (EU) to the tune of €17 million, the French Development Agency (AFD) €1.5 million, the ECOWAS Commission and the recipient States to the tune of €5 million. AFD will be responsible for the project for all donors. The project will be implemented over a period of 60 months, from the date the agreement is signed with ECOWAS, and completed no later than 19 August 2019.

Overall goal: Improve incomes for fruit and vegetable producers, thereby contributing to food security and poverty reduction in the subregion.

Specific goals:

- Increase volumes of fruits free of infestation in local markets, thereby contributing to food security for the people;
- Control fruit and vegetable losses caused by fly infestation to prevent export constraints;
- Transpose measures taken to combat flies into other areas or even regions subject to plant health risks;
- West Africa area, ECOWAS to strengthen its role as the driver of its sectoral policy.

2. Mission background and goals

a. Background

Diagnostic laboratories are very important for monitoring the composition of different species, the dynamics of the fruit fly populations and for the identification of the latter. These laboratories should provide an accurate diagnosis and support training activities for technical staff in each of the beneficiary countries of the fruit fly control project (Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, The Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Mali, Senegal and Togo).

The PLMF project has a Training Plan and Modules, after an audit of the diagnostic laboratories of the countries involved in the project and proposals for training modules to fill the gaps in the laboratory technicians.

In order to make these laboratories operational, it is important that their technicians receive capacity building in the processing of samples of fruit flies, from the receipt of samples to the identification and conservation of specimens.

b. Objectives

The overall objective of this training is to build the capacity of fruit fly diagnostic laboratory technicians to identify these insects. It will, in a specific way, bring the technicians:

- to better understand the PLMF fruit fly monitoring model and their roles in the model;
- to have good knowledge on fruit fly systematics;
- to be able to proper use the different tools, materials and procedures for identifying fruit flies
- to become familiar with the general characteristics as well as the distinctive characteristics of the main species of fruit flies in West Africa, necessary for their identification

c. Expected results

At the end of the workshop, the technicians of the diagnostic laboratories:

- have identified their roles in the PLMF monitoring system
- have good knowledge of fruit fly systematics;
- have good practices of the material and the identification procedure of fruit flies;
- know how to identify the main fruit fly species based solely on their morphological characteristics, without necessarily having to use an identification key

3. Methodological approach

The training will be very practical, based on theoretical knowledge. The pedagogical approach is as follows:

- Theoretical aspects in training hall (projections with PowerPoint supports)
- Practical aspects in training hall (mastering the identification materials, sorting of fruit flies, use of stereoscopic microscope, preparation of entomological box)

Practical activities will be done in groups of 2 to 4 people.

The modules on which laboratory technicians from the 9 countries involved in the PLMF project will be trained are as follows:

Module 1: Fruit fly monitoring and identification tools in the laboratory

- Outline of the PLMF fruit fly monitoring system model and the role of the technicians of the fruit fly diagnostic laboratories in the model,
- Further study on the use of tools, materials and procedures for identifying fruit flies,
- Creation of network for exchange of experiences and appropriation of different identification tools

Module 2: Distinctive taxonomic characteristics of fruit flies

- General characteristics necessary for the identification of fruit flies,
- Distinctive characteristics of the main genera of fruit flies in West Africa,
- practical work:
 - o Sexing specimens of fruit flies from a sample,
 - o Sorting of fruit fly specimens from a sample by morphotypes.

Module 3: Distinctive taxonomic characteristics of species of the main genera of fruit flies in West Africa.

- Identification material
- Presentation of the main genera
- Criteria for the identification of fruit flies
 - Case of the genus *Ceratitis*
 - Case of the genus *Bactrocera*
 - Case of the genus *Dacus*
 - Case of the genus *Zeugodacus*
- Practical work
 - Identification of fruit flies in groups
 - Presentation of group results

4. Schedule and reports

The selected Consultants will present their methodology for validation with the training support documents.

They will also present a training evaluation report, taking into account the various comments / suggestions from the participants, as well as a final report of the training.

5. Consultant profile

<p>Qualifications:</p>	<p>Holder of higher degree – Masters or PhD in: Agronomy, Earth Sciences, Entomology, Agro-economy, Agricultural products processing</p>
<p>General professional experience</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least 07 years of experience in rural and agricultural development and the fruit sector in particular; • At least 07 years of experience in teaching and training • Proven knowledge in entomology; • At least seven years' experience in rural and agricultural development, and the fruit sector in particular • Knowledge in area of development of agricultural by-products • Good knowledge of the regional and international context in the area of research and agricultural development • Proven knowledge of support from various organizations for implementing action plans
<p>Specific skills</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proven knowledge in taxonomy • Good knowledge of the regional and international context of the fruit flies control; • Good programming and forecasting skills • Good skills in drafting reports and summary reports • Availability during mission period

6. Consultant selection process

Dissemination of this proposal and recruitment of the consultant will be based on limited consultation and by qualification of the consultant.