



Leader de l'Innovation Agricole en Afrique de l'Ouest et du Centre
Leading Agricultural Innovation in West and Central Africa



CALL FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Recruitment of an individual consultant for drafting and editing scientific papers including metadata analysis on Integrated Landscape Management (ILM).

Opening of the call: May 17, 2024

Closing of the call: May 31, 2024

CEI No. 09-2024

1. The Food System Resilience Program (FSRP) is a flagship regional investment program aimed at strengthening the food system resilience in West Africa through a strategic regional approach. The program will finance investments in three mutually reinforcing thematic areas: (1) Digital advisory services for agriculture and food crisis prevention and management; (2) Sustainability and adaptive capacity of the food system's productive base (sustainable land and watershed management, agro-ecological approaches); and (3) Regional food market integration and trade (development of the regional staple food value chain). Each area will be led by a mandated regional institution (AGRHYMET, CORAF and ECOWAS) to ensure coordination and build sustainable capacity.
2. The main objective of this mission is to develop a full draft version of at least two scientific papers with one on Metadata analysis on ILM from reports and supplementary materials from previous study.
3. The tasks to be carried out as well as other information relating to the conduct of the mission are outlined in the terms of reference below.
4. The Executive Director of CORAF therefore invites interested candidates ("Consultants") with the required profile as indicated in the terms of reference to express their interest.
5. Interested candidates shall provide a notice of expression of interest and an updated CV with references highlighting performance and experience of similar services.
6. Candidates are advised that the provisions of paragraph 3.14 of the "Procurement Regulations for Investment Project Financing Borrowers" of July 2016, revised in November 2017 and in August 2018 ("The Regulations") regarding the World Bank's rules on conflict of interest shall apply.

7. Candidates will be selected according to the Consultant's Qualification Based Selection as described in the "Bank's Procurement Regulations".
8. Interested candidates can obtain additional information from the CORAF Executive Secretariat via e-mail every working day at the following address: n.lamien@coraf.org and copy procurement@coraf.org.
9. Consultants interested in this call must submit a letter of expression of interest highlighting performance and experience of similar contracts and a detailed CV with copies of diplomas and work certificates to the following email address: procurement@coraf.org on **May 31, 2024 at 0:00 PM GMT** at the latest.

Dr Alioune FALL
Executive Director

For the recruitment of an individual consultant for drafting and editing scientific papers including metadata analysis on Integrated Landscape Management (ILM).

1. Background

The West Africa Food System Resilience Program (FSRP) aims at increasing the preparedness against food insecurity and improve the resilience of food systems in participating countries such as Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger, Togo, Chad, Ghana, Sierra Leone, Senegal with the support of the World Bank.

The component 2 of the program is led by CORAF and aims at improving the resilience of the productive base of the food system and contribute directly to the Great Green Wall (GGW) initiative. This component 2 has two mutually supporting subcomponents: Subcomponent 2.1 (Consolidate Regional Agricultural Innovation Systems) and Subcomponent 2.2 (Strengthen Regional Food Security through ILM). The subcomponent 2.2 seeks to improve food security for rural households and build their resilience to climate variability by supporting ILM as a long-term collaborative process.

Integrated Landscape Management (ILM) is a participatory and holistic approach that encompasses agriculture, ecosystem services, biodiversity, landscape aesthetic value and its associated services, socio-cultural identity, and recreational attributes. The driving force behind their sustainable management is the establishment of landscape partnerships and platforms at various levels, gathering all stakeholders living and benefiting from this landscape. Thus, implementation of ILM integrates both the technical aspects of natural and ecosystem resource management in general, conflict prevention and, participatory management techniques, negotiation techniques based on common strategies and objectives, adaptive management based on shared knowledge and sustainability.

The successful implementation of ILM concept also requires building on the previous achievements from certain projects/programs and initiatives related to ILM. In compliance with this, last year 2023, CORAF commissioned a study on “mapping the best practices and experts in Integrated Landscape Management (ILM) and setting up an ILM

platform in West Africa”. This study provides guidelines to facilitate the implementation of ILM activities under the FSRP program, using the participatory and holistic approaches. Results from this study will be shared with all program stakeholders and some beneficiaries in the first semester of this year 2024.

However, it is the intention of CORAF to contribute to the advancement of knowledge on this approach by re-framing and sharing the findings from the study with the international scientific community. Hence, CORAF is recruiting an individual consultant to assist drafting and editing at least two scientific papers with high impact factor from the reports and others supplementary materials from the ILM initiatives mapping study.

2. Objectives

The main objective of this mission is to develop a full draft version of at least two scientific papers with one on Metadata analysis on ILM from reports and supplementary materials from previous study.

Specifically, it aims to:

- Analyze and suggest means for valorizing findings from the previous study on “mapping the best practices and experts in Integrated Landscape Management (ILM) and setting up an ILM platform in West Africa”,
- Draft and review full version of at least two scientific papers,
- Contribute to the editing/framing and publication of these papers in international journal with high impact factor (IF).

3. Key tasks

- Explore and analyze reports and supplementary materials from the ILM initiatives mapping study,
- Suggest outlines for at least two different scientific papers (with one based on metadata analysis) and define the research questions embedded,
- Suggest and submit methodological approaches and/or theoretical frameworks to be used in the scientific papers,
- Run complementary review where needed, specifically related to metadata systematic review procedures on ILM approaches,
- Extract quantitative data from the selected articles using metadata analysis approach and reconstitute the database for each defined treatment,

- Analyze the extracted data by choosing and applying the adequate effect size methods suitable for the data series,
- Draft the full version of the articles,
- Identify journals with high impact factor and contribute to the submission and review processes of the articles.

4. Methodological approach

Detail methodology must be elaborated by the consultant in close collaboration with the CORAF's team based on the guidelines provided from section 3.

5. Expected results and deliverables

- Methodological approaches and/or theoretical frameworks to be used in the scientific papers are submitted for amendment and validation,
- At least two full draft version of scientific articles are available and ready for submission to at least two different journals with high impact factor,
- Contributions from the consultant are expected during the reviewing processes of the articles,
- At least two scientific articles are published with one related to metadata analysis on ILM.

6. Period of execution

This assignment is expected to be carried out for a total of 30 man working days, spread over a period of 3 months maximum (June-August 2024). The consultant will work virtually (home-based assignment) and will travel to Dakar (Senegal) for in-person discussion with the CORAF's team when needed.

7. Qualifications

This task will be entrusted to a consultant with proven skills, competences and experience in scientific paper writing and editing, who has expertise in articles publication processes (including meta-data analysis) in the field of natural resources management, according to the following criteria:

- Minimum of PhD degree in Agronomy, Natural resources management, Landscape management, environmental studies, or any other related field ;
- At least ten (10) years' experience in academia and/or research ;

- Have published at least ten (10) articles in the field of agronomy, Natural resources management, Landscape management, or any other related field (be the first author for at least 50% of these articles) in international peer-review journals ;
- Have at least two (02) of these articles being on metadata analysis ;
- Have at least one of these articles related to Integrated landscape management (ILM) ;
- Master the use of tools and methods apply in quantitative systematic review (metadata analysis) ;
- Proficiency in statistics, data collection and data analysis software ;
- Excellent writing and communication skills, preferably in French and English ;
- Be ready to respond to the concerns of CORAF and those from the Journals during and after the end of its mission for accompaniment if necessary.

8. How to apply

Consultant interested in this call must submit a letter of expression of interest highlighting performance and experience of similar contracts and a detailed CV with copies of diplomas and work certificates to the following email address: procurement@coraf.org on **May 31, 2024 at 0:00 PM GMT** at the latest.

9. Other provisions

CORAF reserves the right to stop the recruitment process at any time or to restart the call for tenders in case the applications received have not given satisfaction. The selected candidate must comply with the CORAF rules and regulations.

10. Fraud, corruption, conflicts of interest, exploitation, sexual abuse, and sexual harassment

Fraud, corruption: tenderers, suppliers, contractors and their subcontractors must observe the strictest rules of professional ethics when awarding and executing contracts. In particular, they must avoid any act of corruption and any fraudulent, collusive, coercive or obstructive manoeuvres in order to grant or obtain a contract made by CORAF. Any deviant behaviour will be subject to appropriate sanctions (cancellation of the contract, exclusion of future contracts awarded by CORAF, dismissal of CORAF staff guilty of these acts.

Conflicts of interest: The CORAF rules require that any company participating in a procurement procedure not be in a conflict of interest situation. Two scenarios can be envisaged:

- The Firm provides goods, works or services (other than consulting services) that follow or are directly related to consulting services for the preparation or execution of a project provided by the Firm or by an affiliated Firm;
- 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 tender documents or the specifications of the contract, and/or in the evaluation process for said contract; or (ii) who may be involved in the performance or supervision of that same contract.

Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) **includes the** following meanings:

- “**Sexual Exploitation**” (SEA), defined as the act of abusing or attempting to abuse a state of vulnerability, differential power or trust for sexual purposes, including, but not limited to, monetarily profiting, social or political exploitation of another person;
- “**Sexual Abuse**” (SA), defined as any physical intrusion or threat of physical intrusion of a sexual nature, either by force or under unequal conditions or by coercion;
- «**Sexual Harassment**» (HS) is defined as any unwelcome sexual advance, any request for sexual favours or any other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature by the Contractor’s personnel with respect to other personnel of the Contractor or the Owner;

Any company that proves to be in a situation of conflict of interest or exploitation, abuse or sexual harassment will not be able to obtain a contract from CORAF.