



## Terms of Reference

### Development of a Regional Strategy for Engagement of Private Sector and Other Non- State Actors including Youth for Agricultural Research and Development

#### 1. BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

The Agricultural Research for Development (AR4D) institutions comprising African Forum for Agricultural Advisory Services (AFAAS), Association for Strengthening Agricultural Research in Eastern and Central Africa (ASARECA), Centre for Coordination of Agricultural Research and Development for Southern Africa (CCARDESA), West and Central African Council for Agricultural Research and Development (CORAF) and Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA) are currently implementing the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme ex-Pillar 4 (CAADP-XP4) Programme. This Agricultural Research and Innovation Programme falls under the European Union's (EU) Development Smart Innovation through Research in Agriculture (DeSIRA) initiative. The CAADP-XP4 Programme is financially supported by the EU and managed by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) for a period of 4 years. The CAADP-XP4 Programme supports a science-led and climate-relevant agricultural transformation in Africa. It aims at strengthening the capacities of the above- mentioned organizations to deliver on their AR4D mandate, and to collectively support their respective member states and country fora to implement relevant programme.

The five institutions anticipate delivering these specific objectives through five (5) outputs areas, namely:

1. Strengthened capacities of African institutions for successful implementation of the Programme. Targeted competencies include technical, organizational, infrastructure, coordination, multi-stakeholder management, resource mobilization, fiduciary processes, monitoring, evaluation, and learning.
2. Multi-stakeholder partnerships for innovation established and in operation.
3. Strengthened policies in support of climate-relevant agriculture and food systems transformation formulated, investments increased, advocacy and market linkages.
4. Established knowledge management (KM) and communication systems for decision-making and sharing of innovation and for advocacy related to climate-relevant agriculture transformation.
5. Enhanced planning, coordination, monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL) and reporting within CCARDESA, the National Agricultural Research and Extension Systems (NARES), and other multi-stakeholder partners, thus minimizing existent weaknesses and ensuring successful Programme implementation.

CCARDESA is currently implementing the CAADP-XP4 Programme within the SADC sub region. The organization aims to promote, facilitate the formation of, and operationalize multi-stakeholder partnerships for innovations that focus on climate relevant innovations. In this regard, CCARDESA seeks to engage a Consultant to develop a regional strategy for engagement of private sector and other non- state actors including women and youth for agricultural research and developments as well as develop an implementation plan for its operationalization.

## **2. JUSTIFICATION**

The aim of undertaking this assignment is to enhance CCARDESA's engagement with the private sector and other non-state actors including women and youth on climate issues in agriculture. The private sector and other non-state actors are increasingly playing a vital role in the transformation of the agricultural sector. This intervention is expected to improve the organization's performance and enhance its ability to engage with the private sector, women and youth and continue to stay relevant within a rapidly changing AR4D environment. To have a vibrant private sector as well as other non-state actors participating effectively in CCARDESA's transformative AR4D interventions, there is need to develop a Strategy that clearly articulates the possible mechanisms or modalities for engagement and how these can be implemented. Implementation of this assignment is therefore a critical exercise designed to inform how CCARDESA will engage with the private sector and other non-state actors to enhance its performance in delivery of its AR4D mandate within the SADC sub region.

## **3. OBJECTIVE OF THE ASSIGNMENT**

The overall objective of this consultancy is to develop a regional strategy for engagement of private sector and other non-state actors, including women and youth in enhancing food and nutrition security, economic development and climate mitigation in the SADC. CCARDESA envisage that the Strategy will consider the diverse views and aspirations of all the relevant actors in the region and explore best practice models for effective engagement of strategic partners.

## **4. SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES OF THE ASSIGNMENT**

The specific objectives of this consultancy include:

- i. To explore and propose concrete strategies for long term engagement with private sector, women, youth and other non-state actors as well as mechanisms for implementing the identified strategies;
- ii. To carry out consultations with relevant stakeholders to collect their views and aspirations regarding effective partnerships for innovations on climate change;
- iii. To prepare a draft Strategy document and its Implementation Plan;
- iv. To organize/facilitate virtual/ face-to-face workshop to validate the Strategy and Implementation Plan;
- v. To solicit input from CCARDESA stakeholders and contributions from the Validation Workshop
- vi. To prepare the final Strategy document and its Implementation Plan.
- vii. To develop a report on R&D priority setting in the region.

## **5. SCOPE OF WORK**

To complete this task, the Consultant will undertake the following specific tasks:

- i. Develop an appropriate methodology for carrying out the assignment. The detailed methodology will be included in the technical proposal as well as the inception report;
- ii. Carry out in-depth desk review of similar strategies within the region, continent and globally to glean out best practice models of partnerships for innovation that focus on Climate Change with private sector, women, youth and other non-state actors;

- iii. Conduct both virtual and face-to-face consultations with the relevant stakeholders to gather information that will inform the development of a strategy;
- iv. Benchmark on current engagement modalities among AR4D institutions and the private sector and non-state-actors;
- v. Design strategies for engagement of private sector, women, youth and other non-state actors during implementation of its climate relevant AR4D interventions as well as modalities on how to implement the identified strategies;
- vi. Develop a comprehensive Strategy and the Implementation Plan for enhancing effective engagement of the private sector and other non-state actors, including the women and youth in the implementation of CCARDESA's climate relevant AR4D interventions;
- vii. Hold a virtual or face to face stakeholder Validation Workshop;
- viii. Finalize and share/disseminate the Strategy with the CCARDESA Management.

## 6. DELIVERABLES

The key deliverables are:

- i. An **Inception Report** that clearly spells out the proposed methodology and approach with clear timelines, data collection tool with data sources, validation plan and other requirements necessary for the delivery of the assignment;
- ii. A **draft Strategy document** and its related **Implementation Plan** for engagement of private sector and other non-state actors including women and youth. These documents should articulate:
  - Key actionable recommendations on viable strategies for engagement of the private sector and other non-state actors on climate issues in agriculture;
  - Modalities on how to implement the identified strategies;
  - An Implementation Plan that outlines clear timelines for the actions proposed as well as required budget;
- iii. **Validation workshop report**, detailing key recommendations;
- iv. **Final Strategy** with incorporated recommendations;
- v. **Final Implementation Plan**.
- vi. **Final report** on R&D priority setting in the region.

## 7. SUPPORT TO THE CONSULTANT

CCARDESA will support the Consultant in the following areas:

- i. Provide the contact details of the technical staff from the Secretariat and selected regional and country-level stakeholders to be interviewed during the assignment;
- ii. Facilitate relevant logistics to undertake the task with minimal interruptions;
- iii. Provide relevant information/literature materials as might be required;
- iv. Provision of an introductory letter.

## 8. QUALIFICATIONS AND WORK EXPERIENCE OF THE CONSULTANT

- i. At least MSc degree in Agricultural Sciences; Governance & Organizational Studies; Public Administration; Policy and Advocacy and any relevant field. Post-graduate training in the relevant area would be an added advantage.
- ii. At least 10 years' experience in: (i) the development sector, preferably in managing partnerships with private sector; (ii) assessments of partnerships/collaborative mechanisms involving private sector, women and youth in AR4D interventions; and (iii) developing strategies and implementation action plans.

- iii. Ability to organize meetings, calls and documents that may require the input of multiple sources.
- iv. Proven ability to work both independently and as part of a team.
- v. Experience in similar assignments (development of strategies and implementation action plans).
- vi. Experience on sample design and data collection methodologies including online data collection techniques as well as development of survey tools.
- vii. Experience in working in Southern African countries.
- viii. Knowledge of Portuguese would be an added advantage.
- ix. Experience in gender and youth mainstreaming will be an added advantage.

## **9. DURATION**

The assignment is expected to take a total of 30 working days spread across 40 calendar days.

## **10. REPORTING**

The Consultant will report to the CAADP-XP4 Programme Coordinator of CCARDESA and will work closely with the Programme Officer and other technical staff at the Secretariat.