

Establish Equitable Partnership Fund (EquiPart Fund) for Proposal Development Including International Expertise Under the CAADP-XP4 Project (Activity 2.3.4)

Terms of Reference for the Recruitment of a Consultant/Reviewer

A. Background

For almost two decades of its existence, FARA has coordinated continental initiatives in ARD funded by different donors with different requirements. Through this coordination and collaboration with partners involved in these initiatives, FARA has gained core competencies and learnt many lessons in research for development and multi-stakeholder in terms of partnership, governance, grants, management, fiduciary and resource mobilization. Funding the African ARD institutions has been a critical factor in getting Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI), mainstreamed in the national agricultural investment programmes. Also, FARA has learnt that the current funding mechanism of ARD is based on competition with ‘*Excellence*’ being the core criteria of proposal selection. Therefore, this mode of access to funding requires capacity building with write-shops to prepare partners before responding to calls for proposals. One of the lessons learnt is that organizing write-shops requires financial and human resources (experts) which most time is a constraint to African ARD institutions. From PAEPARD experience we have learnt that a matching fund such as the Incentive Fund (IF) plays a crucial role in organizing the write-shop and recruiting consultant with knowledge in facilitation of the multi-stakeholder partnerships (MSP) and proposals’ development. The IF of PAEPARD II (less than €400k) helped to mobilize over USD 40 million from 2014 to 2018 for different MSP teams. Therefore, the application of the Ghanaian say that we use fish to catch fish or as a Congolese musician said in his song that money calls money.

AFAAS, ASARECA, CCARDESA, CORAF and FARA are implementing a joint project funded by the European Commission (EC) via the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD). The project (€30 million), called CAADP Ex-Pillar 4 (CAADP-XP4) will link research and innovation with development initiatives to boost the transformation of innovation in agriculture and food systems to make them more resilient to climate change and better responsive to development demands. The overall objective of the CAADP-XP4 is to increase the contribution of Africa’s regional and country level agriculture and food innovation systems towards the achievement of climate relevant and sustainable transformation of the continent’s agriculture and food systems.

Among many activities of the project is the establishment of equitable partnership fund for proposal development with the support of international expertise (activity 2.3.4). However, internal reflection at FARA questioned the sustainability of the activity at the end of the project.

Considering the role/importance of such a fund in resource mobilization, FARA suggested a sustainable fund that will support partners in the participation of write-shops and other forms of proposal development during and after the project.

Suggestion is to start the Equitable Partnership (EquiPart) Fund with the budget allocated to this activity in project used as seed money. This means that all partners involved in the CAADP-XP4 project will contribute all their budget into this basket fund. This seed money will be used according to modalities that will be defined in the guidelines to mobilize more resources in a sustainable way (including after the project).

B. About the Supporting Implementation of Science-Led and Climate-Relevant Agricultural Transformation in Africa (CAADP-XP4) Project

The CAADP-XP4 project is funded under the **Development Smart Innovations through Research in Agriculture (DeSIRA)** initiative of the Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development (DevCo) of the European Commission managed by IFAD. The action aims at contributing to the Agenda 2063 and to the CAADP goals as set in the 2014 African Union's Malabo Declaration on Accelerated African Agricultural Growth and Transformation for Shared Prosperity and Improved Livelihoods. The action also aims to contribute to the Global Development Agenda set by the UN by progressive achievement of SDG1 (End Poverty), SDG2 (End Hunger), in addition to SDG 8 ([Decent Work and Economic Growth](#)), SDG 13 ([Climate Action](#)) and SDG 15 ([Life on Land](#)). This will enhance accelerated innovation to address climate change challenges impacting on smallholder farmers and SMEs in Sub-Saharan Africa (aligned with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change).

The **objective** is to enable agricultural research and innovation, including extension services, to contribute effectively to food and nutrition security, economic development, and climate mitigation in Africa. This will be achieved by improving the capacity, effectiveness and positioning of the Regional and Sub regional Agriculture research and extension organizations as well as National-Agriculture-Research-Systems, and by promoting collaboration and knowledge sharing among the organizations.

The **Specific Objective** to strengthen FARA in implementing its mandate and its capacity to collaborate effectively with AFAAS, ASARECA, CCARDESA and CORAF in order to collectively support African countries in delivering the program at hand, and to contribute to the delivery of CAADP results through: inclusive regional and international partnerships; production and exchange of climate relevant agricultural knowledge; effective communication, monitoring and evaluation; promotion of systemic and effective use of science, knowledge and innovation; and representation of the sub regional and National organisations at continental level.

The 5 main outputs of the project are: Output1: Strengthen the capacities of the individual continental and regional organizations in technical and organizational capacities in coordination, multi-stakeholder program management, resource mobilization, fiduciary processes and MEL for Africa agricultural transformation; Output2: Multi-stakeholder Partnerships for Innovation established and in operation; Output3: Policies in support of climate relevant agriculture and food systems transformation formulated; investments increased, advocacy and market linkages strengthened, Output4: Knowledge Management: Knowledge Management & Communication for decision support, sharing innovation and advocacy related to climate relevant agriculture



transformation and Output5: Effective Planning, Coordination, Monitoring, Evaluation, Learning (MEL) & Reporting

C. Establish a Fund for Equitable Support in Proposal Development Including International Expertise

Under output 2 (multi-stakeholder partnerships for innovation), activity 2.3.4 is about *establish a fund for equitable support in proposal development including international expertise* (EquiPart Fund). AFAAS, ASARECA, CCARDESA, CORAF and FARA are working together to establish an equitable partnership fund that will support proposals' development for ARD in Africa. Therefore, the 5 organizations are looking for an expert who will help to develop/review Guidelines to establish the EquiPart Fund to support proposal development in a sustainable way. A draft of Guidelines will be developed by these organizations but a thorough review by an external expert knowledgeable in ARD funding (resource mobilization) will contribute to improve the draft and organize validation workshop.

D. Objective of the consultancy

The main objective of the consultancy services is to help the above-mentioned organizations to review the Guidelines for the establishment of an equitable partnership fund (EquiPart Fund) and its operationalization to support proposal development during a validation workshop (through webinar).

E. Key Tasks

Under the guidance and supervision of the Director of Research and Innovation of the 5 organizations and the responsible of the implementation of this activity in each organization, the consultant/reviewer will carry out the following activities:

- (i) Undertake a thorough review of the draft Guidelines for a setup and operationalization of an EquiPart Fund to support participation of ASARECA, AFAAS, CCARDESA, CORAF, FARA and ARD partners in proposal's development.
- (ii) Suggest practical improvements to Guidelines to operationalize EquiPart Fund to mobilize more financial resources to support research and innovation in the 5 organizations and their partner organizations.

F. Deliverables and Payment Schedules

- i. The consultant/reviewer is expected to submit/deliver a reviewed and commented draft guidelines after 2 working days. The organizations will have 5 working days to react to the comments of the reviewer who will have one (1) working day to address these comments.
- ii. The final report will be shared by the reviewer one (1) day after he has received the comments. This version will be shared with ARD partners potential to attend the validation workshop.
- iii. The consultant will organize the validation workshop and collate comments from participants in a workshop report.



G. Timeline

The assignment is expected to start and end with the month of June 2020 with a total of 5 working days.

H. Location of the Assignment

This assignment is essentially home-based which is made of a review, online discussion of comments and a webinar for validation of the Guidelines.

I. Performances and ethical criteria

The assignment will be undertaken with the highest international standards of professional and ethical competence and integrity. Delivery of the listed tasks and deliverables in the point (F) should not suffer from any delays.

J. Services to be provided by CAADP-XP4 organizations

ASARECA, AFAAS, CCARDESA, CORAF & FARA will provide the below services to facilitate the consultant to accomplish the assignment: Any documentation/information helping the consultant to carry out his assignment such as information on CAADP-XP4 project, number of participants to the write-shop.

K. Consultant

The consultant should possess experience and knowledge on how to set up an equitable partnership fund in ARD and the working experience of the multi-stakeholder partnerships. The consultant must have a high qualification level:

- i. **Academic Qualification:** At least Master's degree in social science, agriculture, sociology, management, public policy, or economic field. Having a PhD will confer a comparative advantage.
- ii. **Professional experience:**
 - A minimum of ten (10) years in research and development (particularly in the agricultural sector), planning or Industrial Development with a component on resource mobilization.
 - Detailed list of similar consultancies previously done in the past five (5) years; evidence of at least three (3) previous copies of contracts/orders of similar assignments.
 - Good communication with excellent writing and analytical skills.
 - Sound work ethics, including commitment to time and meeting deadlines as well as maintaining courtesy and trustworthiness.
 - Tax compliance certificates.

L. Applications

Interested candidates should send their expression of interest, comprehensive curriculum vitae, and other required documents via email to the address below by close of business on **Thursday 24th September 2020.**

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Page 4 of 5



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FARA Affirmative Action Statement on Employment: there is no discrimination based on gender race, religion, ethnic orientation, disability or health status.



Page 5 of 5



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Transforming Agriculture for Improved Livelihoods

CCARDESA
Centre for Coordination of Agricultural Research and Development for Southern Africa

