TELEMARKETING

Recruitment of a Consultant/Facilitator to support and provide training on Innovation Platforms (IPs) in selected countries

Activity Reference No: FARA/DRI/ICF04/3.2.3/TSF-TAAT
Procurement Reference No: TAAT/CDTO/CON/8-11

A. Background

The African Development Bank launched the Technologies for African Agricultural Transformation (TAAT) – a major continent-wide initiative designed to boost agricultural productivity across the continent by rapidly delivering proven technologies to millions of farmers. TAAT aims to double crop, livestock, and fish productivity by expanding access to productivity-increasing technologies to more than 40 million smallholder farmers across Africa by 2025. It also seeks to generate an additional 120 million metric tons (T) of food while lifting 130 million people out of poverty. TAAT partners and stakeholders work to ensure the dissemination of knowledge and the right technologies at an accelerated pace. An integral component of the Bank’s Feed Africa Strategy 2016–2025, TAAT brings together CGIAR Centers, FARA and its SROs and NARES to build a technology delivery infrastructure to address the challenges of African food systems through the application of improved technologies.

The Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA) is the Capacity Development and Technology Delivery (CDTO) compact of TAAT, which seeks to strengthen capacities within the TAAT Ecosystem by facilitating outreach and scaling of proven technologies and good practices along the targeted TAAT value chains across ecologies, for increased incomes and job creation in Africa. As the CDTO Enabler Compact, FARA leverages its Innovation Platform (IP) approach in the implementation of TAAT to contribute to the delivery of the goals of the Feed Africa Initiative of the African Development Bank (AfDB).

In addition, the AfDB launched the African Emergency Food Production Facility (AEFPF) to help African countries raise food production in the short term by supporting farmers and governments with the necessary resources. In this regard, the Technical Assistance for Agricultural Transformation in Countries in Transition project (TSF) was deployed as a mechanism to support these ongoing efforts and help countries build the needed capacity in relevant public-private institutions to be able to catalyse large-scale increases in agricultural productivity and commodity
production. Consequently, the CDTO and all the various commodity compacts are currently advancing in the implementation of TSFII and TAATII, in alignment with the Dakar II conference as well as the AEFP. Current efforts in the implementation of TAAT focus on the removal of policy bottlenecks related programs, dissemination input delivery, mainstreaming Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) in-country programmes, dissemination of proven climate-smart agricultural production technologies to enhance agricultural productivity, supporting the development of certified seeds of climate resilient varieties of maize, rice, wheat, cassava, sorghum/millet, orange flesh sweet potato, high-iron beans and supporting and linking agripreneurs (women and youth) to TAAT technology delivery.

As part of its contribution, the CDTO shall strengthen existing TAAT IPs establish new ones in TSF and TAAT II countries, and train trainers on IPs.

Consequently, FARA is seeking the service of high-level Facilitators to support and provide training on IP in the following Countries clustered as follows:

1. Cameroon Central Africa, Democratic Republic of Congo (Cluster 1)
2. Guinea Bissau, Senegal and Madagascar (Cluster 2)
3. Ghana, Nigeria (Cluster 3)
4. Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda and South Sudan (Cluster 4)

This implies that we will designate a facilitator for each cluster, and the contract will be awarded based on clusters. Hence, potential consultants are requested to submit their Expressions of Interest (EOIs) corresponding to the cluster they are interested in.

**B. Objectives of assignment**

The overall objective of the assignment is to support CDTO in the strengthening of existing Innovation Platforms in the above clusters integrating them into a continental IP and Agribusiness Network.

**C. Scope of Work**

i. Support the strengthening of existing TAAT IPs.
ii. Support the establishment of new TAAT IPs.
iii. Facilitate the training of trainers and training of national stakeholders on IP.
iv. Support the development of mechanisms for creating IP networks in beneficiary countries.
v. Support the linkage of the Innovation Platform to FARA IP and Agribusiness network.
vi. Support the collection of data and knowledge products around established TAAT IPs for dissemination
vii. Support inclusivity and sustainability plans of the IPs
viii. Report on lessons and experiences from the IPs

**D. Expected Output and Deliverables**
The facilitator is expected to submit an inception report (1 week after contract signing), a draft report, and a final report on the assigned activities facilitated by FARA by December 31, 2024.
E. Duration of the Assignment
The duration for each specific task in their corresponding cluster is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Duration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cluster 1</td>
<td>30 Man-days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cluster 2</td>
<td>30 Man-days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cluster 3</td>
<td>20 Man-days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cluster 4</td>
<td>60 Man-days</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

F. Location of the Assignment
The assignment will cover the above clusters as agreed during implementation. He/She may also be required to participate in a TAAT event or the FARA Secretariat on a need basis.

G. Performance Criteria
The facilitator is expected to undertake the services with the highest professional /ethical competence and integrity standards. They should be able to deliver the listed assignments most effectively and efficiently within the assignment period stated in Section E.

H. Reporting
The facilitator will report to the Executive Director (ED) of FARA through the CDTO Compact Leader.

I. FACILITIES TO BE PROVIDED BY FARA
FARA will provide the facilitator with all reports on TSF & TAAT activities and any other logistical support, as may be agreed, to facilitate the execution of the assignment.

J. Competencies and Experience
The facilitator should be:

- An advanced degree in Agricultural economics, Agricultural Extension, Agronomy, or business management, with at least five years, post qualification experience in business development.
- Familiar with the TAAT ecosystem and its role in supporting the development and strengthening of Innovation Platforms (IPs) in line with the Africa Emergency Food Production Facility (AEPFP) and Dakar II Goals
- Familiar with mechanisms to support and strengthen country IPs.
- Demonstrate familiarity with commodity compacts and relevant stakeholders within the TAAT ecosystem
- Familiar with stakeholder engagement, agricultural revenue generation, and enterprise development
- Available to travel to TAAT IPs
- Should have demonstrated capacity to engage stakeholders in research and extension to extract information and data for packaging knowledge products
- Familiar with FARA's role in African agricultural research and development and should portray virtues of integrity and confidentiality.