



## TERMS OF REFERENCE

### **Recruitment of Junior Consultant for Technology Transfer & Data Entry to Strengthen TAAT Innovation Platforms**

***Activity Reference No: FARA/DRI/ICF04/3.2.3/TSF-TAAT***

***Procurement Reference No: TAAT-CDTO/CON/12***

#### **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).

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) is being 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 TSF and TAATII, in alignment with the Dakar II conference as well as the AEF. 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.

This ToR represents a guide to the recruitment of a Junior Consultant to support the strengthening of existing Innovation Platforms (IPs), IP training, data collection and provide M&E support to CDTO. The TOR includes the desired qualifications, experience, and the desired deliverables.

## **B. Objectives of assignment**

The activity aims to engage an experienced Junior Consultant to provide support to existing IP strengthening, training, data collation and M&E systems for TAATII & TSF and to execute any further activity on the automated organizational planning and M&E Systems that FARA and other implementing partners of the TAATII & TSF Programs are currently using. The Junior Consultant is to provide technical support, in the planning and implementation of capacity development activities of the CDTO.

### **Specific Objectives:**

- i. Support the establishment and strengthening of existing IPs
- ii. Support training activities in TAATII and TSF countries
- iii. Collation of data and information to support TAAT MPRO and FARA MEL
- iv. Compile contents for regular updates on TAAT-relevant materials.
- v. Support training organised for local and international staff, partners, and users on using the web application led by CDTO.
- vi. Support the upgrade of the user interface and experience of the web application.
- vii. Support the development and finalisation of modules initiated for the MEL & link the same to MPRO.
- viii. Participate in exhibitions, dissemination of extension materials and engagement with partners.

## **C. Scope of Work**

The role may include capacity development, training of trainers, and logistical support, the Junior Consultant will work with the FARA CDTO Compact Leader to carry out the required functions.

## **D. Expected Output and Deliverables**

Contractually, the Junior Consultant will deliver the following:

- i Reports on IP capacity development activities.
- ii Collection of M&E data for TAAT II & TSF
- iii Preparation of mission plans, travel authorization, compilation of participants' list and coordination of admin support during workshops and meetings
- iv Support to integration of databases and web applications used by the FARA and other implementing partners, including the TAAT Ecosystem
- v Provide IT and logistical support leveraging FARA and TAAT M&E system and their interoperability with other methods used by FARA and other implementing partners.
- vi Other updates that may be applied to the MEL website based on demand.

#### **E. Duration of the Assignment**

The duration of the assignment will be 12 months and will be concluded by January, 2026.

#### **F. Location of the Assignment**

The assignment will be carried out at the FARA Secretariat and the home office of the Technology Transfer and Data Entry Consultant, and the outputs will be submitted to the FARA Secretariat in Accra, Ghana, or its designee every two weeks. Whenever there is the need for a field trip, this will be discussed and agreed upon by both parties and FARA shall pay for costs associated with it as per the FARA policy. FARA will provide temporary arrangements for office space with communication, computer, and internet facilities.

#### **G. Performance Criteria**

The Junior Consultant 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 Junior Consultant will report to the Executive Director (ED) of FARA through the CDTO Compact Leader and the M&E Lead Specialist.

#### **I. Facilities to be provided by FARA.**

- FARA will provide the following materials to facilitate the assignment of the consultant:
- Access to relevant documents about the subject where applicable.
- Office Logistics arrangements to support working from FARA.
- Travel tickets and modest per-diem based on the FARA revised system for all missions to carry out the assignment.
- FARA may arrange linkages with the SROs and other institutions to provide site-specific logistic support, for specific assignments where necessary

#### **J. Competencies and Experience**

The Consultant should have the following expertise:

- A minimum of a degree in Mathematics or a related field, with experience in report writing, data collection, and M&E web applications.
- At least 2 years of professional experience in database compilation, development and management in similar institutions.

- Demonstrable experience in report writing and use of M&E web applications
- Ability to provide accurate, high-quality analysis and documents under pressure.
- Familiar with FARA's role in African agricultural research and development and should portray virtues of integrity and confidentiality.
- Knowledge of TAAT and existing M&E web applications is an added advantage.
- Prior experience working on projects related to agriculture, agribusiness, or rural development.