



REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

ASSIGNMENT TITLE: Consultancy services for the Preparation of the Continental Irrigation Agriculture Development (CIAD) framework

Back ground

The African Union (AU) is an intergovernmental Organization and a successor to the Organization of Africa Unity (OAU) established on 25th of May 1963 with current membership of 55 (Fifty five) member states and aims to promote peace, security and solidarity on the Continent.

Africa Union' Semi-arid Food Grains Research and Development (AU-SAFGRAD), Ouagadougou, is one of the specialized technical Offices in the department of Rural Economy and Agriculture. Its mandate is to build livelihood resilience of small holders in agriculture through its research support and facilitating the development and uptake of Climate Smart Agricultural (CSA) technologies within the context of the semi-arid zone.

The critical role of Agriculture in promoting peace, prosperity and economic development in the Continent has been reiterated in buttressing the need to accelerate African agricultural growth and transformation. Leveraging on this, the Africa Union through the *Malabo 2014* commitments defined the immediate future of African economies around agriculture as the main force in the social and economic transformation of the continent. Evidences abound that the bulk of improvements in food supply in Africa must come from irrigation agriculture and from changes in small holders' production system considering the dominant roles they play in the sector. Dependence on rain-fed agriculture has been identified as a major cause of declining productivity in the sector.

Overall Objective

AU-SAFGRAD is seeking the services of a competent firm to prepare the framework document for Continental Irrigation Agriculture Development (CIAD). The framework should explicitly relate irrigation agriculture development to the responsibilities of national, regional and continental stakeholders. As a development blueprint the framework should be inclusive and broad-based and take into account the farm-research linkage models to facilitate development. The deliverables will demonstrate a strong understanding of the national and regional irrigation agriculture statuses and policy regimes, irrigation schemes implementation and use challenges as well as future development approaches for sustainable irrigation schemes. The assignment will use a mix of qualitative and quantitative techniques from desk reviews.

Competence requirements of the firm

The firm should have at least 10 years in providing similar services to large international organizations or Governments. In particular the firm should have extensive knowledge in African agriculture and sustainable agriculture development models. The framework document should be delivered 20 workdays after signing the contract.

Evaluation/shortlisting Criteria

For evaluation of the expressions of interest the following criteria will be applied:

- a) Core business of the firm and years in business
- b) Specific experience of the firm in the field of the assignment
- c) Experience of similar assignments in organisations of similar nature
- d) Staffing capacity and qualification of in appropriate disciplines

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours 8:00-13:00hrs and 14:00-17:00 GMT.

Expressions of interest must be delivered to the address below (by courier or e-mail) not later than 1700GMT, 23rd March 2018.

Secretary,
AU-SAFGRAD,
261, Rue de la culture
BP 1783, Ouagadougou
Burkina Faso
E-mail: SayahE@africa-union.org
[Tel: +22625306071](tel:+22625306071)

If delivered by courier, the envelope must be clearly marked with the title of the assignment.

Only shortlisted firms will be contacted.

