

## TERMS OF REFERENCE

Title of the Consultancy:	<b>Consultancy to Provide Policy Assessment and Mapping of Regional Value-Chains for Agro-processing and Agrobusinesses in Selected RECs for Integrated Market Systems.</b>
Consultancy type:	Individual
Directorate & Division	Directorate of Programme Innovation and Planning (DPIP) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Division of Technical Cooperation and Advisory Services</li> <li>Division of Data Analytics and Research</li> </ul>
Contact Person:	Bob Kalanzi, PIPD
Procurement Number	
PR Number	

### **1.0 Background**

The COVID-19 crisis, and the political, economic, and social disruption it has caused, is fundamentally changing the traditional context for decision-making on socioeconomic development, particularly for countries in Africa. Already not a major player in global industrialization and trade, African economies are in further marginalization because of the economic damage and decline being experienced in both developed and other developing economies. Although as the continent, our efforts to counter the global forces inclining towards deglobalization may not adequate, it can itself embrace a self-supportive regionalism through enhanced intra-African economic activities and trade. One of the challenges facing African countries in realizing the self-supportive regionalism is triggering structural transformation in the economies of the region, and in the process, creating more value addition in its exports among itself and generating positive economic outcomes. Regional integration and the pooling of resources and capabilities by forming regional value chains (of goods and services) can be an important step in this direction. This can lead to a shift towards more productive economic activities in many countries and can subsequently boost domestic value addition in exports within the region. AUDA-NEPAD's Data-Cipation programme, which seek to deepen citizen engagement and the role of data, digital and non-digital approaches in continental programmes and initiatives in line with priorities of Agenda 2063, also aims use same citizen engagement platforms and spaces to strengthen regional innovation ecosystems through the facilitation stakeholders dialogue and exchange platforms for harnessing regional value-chains of goods and services. The two socioeconomic themes for this component of the Data-Cipation programmes are (1) Digital Innovations for Agro-processing and Agrobusinesses and (2) Digital Innovations for Service Delivery

### **1.1 Rationale**

Developing small business enterprises to produce products does not necessarily translate into sustainable incomes or food and nutrition security; to establish resilient solutions that address income

and food security, the integration of such business enterprises into more competitive value-chains is required. The goal of this work is to provide comprehensive policy assessment and mapping of the agro regional value-chains to strengthen direct linkages between small scale agro-business development and commercial agro-food supply chains through technology-enabled integrated market systems. The assessment is meant to address the fundamental problem of *Information Asymmetry* where most small scale producers do not have enough information (i.e., market information) on which to make business decisions. The information asymmetry problem exists particularly for the small scale agro-producer from the first step of deciding to produce the product to the point the product is purchased at a retail outlet either in the same country or in some other country. As a step to address the information asymmetry problem in agricultural markets and associated value-chains, the assessment and mapping will provide policy makers the insights for transforming markets in selected regional clusters (i.e., regional clusters identified in the Data-Cipation programme) and provide recommendations for the provision of real-time data insights and technology-enabled integration of actors in the value-chains, focusing specifically on the needs of small scale agro-producers. The central focus will be on developing and utilizing frameworks and tools to encourage increased small scale agro-producer participation in competitive markets (critical for AfCFTA) to meet the broader poverty reduction and wealth creation objectives.

## **2.0 Objectives of the Assignment**

The objective of this consultancy is to conduct policy assessment of agro regional value-chains in 4 RECs (namely EAC, ECCAS, SADC and UMA) with the focus of strengthening direct linkages between small scale agro-business development and regional commercial agro-food supply chains through technology-enabled integrated market systems.

## **3.0 Scope of Work, Activities and Tasks**

The consultant will be expected to carry out and deliver on the following tasks:

- i) Assess the agro value-chains in 2 selected countries of the 4 RECs (i.e., EAC, ECCAS, SADC and UMA) and the linkage and access of the small scale agro-business to the value-chains.
- ii) Provide high-level policy insights on regional flow of information, goods and services for the assessment in (i).
- iii) Provide policy recommendations for the use digital technologies to encourage increased small scale agro-producer participation in regional competitive markets.
- iv) Provide recommendations on how national and regional public policy instruments on agro-business can be used to stimulate increased growth in regional flows of agro product and services

## **4.0 Capacity Building Program (if applicable)**

Although there is no capacity building component for this consultancy, the consultant is expected to provide information sharing sessions and, in some cases, where implementation of tools and frameworks are proposed, a training session must be provided to the core staff the Data-Cipation programme on explaining such tools.

## **5.0 Expected Results**

- i) An assessment document on agro value-chains in 4 RECs (i.e., EAC, ECCAS, SADC and UMA) detailing:

- a. linkages and access of the small scale agro-business to the value-chains.
- b. high-level policy insights on regional flow of information, goods and services.
- ii) Policy recommendations for the use digital technologies to encourage increased small scale agro-producer participation in regional competitive markets.
- iii) High-level recommendations on how national and regional public policy instruments on agro-business can use to stimulate increased growth in regional flows of agro product and services.

## **6.0 Deliverables and Reports/Milestones Schedule**

<b><u>Milestone</u></b>	<b><u>Estimated Duration</u></b>	<b><u>Delivery Period</u></b>
Inception report on work, precise methodologies to be applied in carrying out the assignment	10 days	TBA
Submission of draft report with assessment of Agro Value-Chain in 4 RECs (i.e., EAC, ECCAS, SADC and UMA	20 days	TBA
Submission of revised assessment report with stakeholder input	10 days	TBA
Submission of final closing report of assessment report and supporting tools and frameworks	10 days	TBA

## **6.1 Payment Schedules**

- 20 % upon submission acceptance and approval of inception report on work;
- 40% upon submission acceptance and approval of revised assessment report with stakeholder input; and
- 40% upon submission acceptance and approval final closing report of assessment report

## **7.0 Qualifications and Experience of the Consultant**

- Minimum of Master's Degree in Agricultural Studies, Development Studies and Economics, Social Sciences, Trade and Innovation or related fields – PhD will be added advantage;
- At least 10 years of professional experience in of relevant work experience in the field of agro-businesses, innovation ecosystems and trade in Africa;
- Demonstrated experience in policy assessment, analysis and communication;
- In-depth knowledge of Agenda 2063 and of African institutions working in the development field and well as knowledge of the African Region is highly desirable;
- At least 10 years of progressive relevant and practical experience in multi-stakeholder consultations for policy research;
- Demonstrable experience of the consultant similar and/or relevant to the assignment; and
- Demonstrable experience in the provision of training sessions for technical and high-level political audience.

## **7.1 Skills and Competencies**

- Policy analysis of agro-businesses, innovation ecosystems and trade
- Outstanding communication and writing skills

## **8.0 Consultancy Fees**

The proposed consultancy fees will be lump sum based.

## **9.0 Location**

The assignment will be a policy assessment and research, and the consultant will be required to use his/her own infrastructure/ equipment. Proposed fee must cover all the costs the consultant will incur including consultancy fees, operational, coordination costs & documentation. The work may require the consultant to consult with institutions in Member States for solicitation of quantitative and qualitative information.

If travel would be required (consultations, training workshop, etc.) the AUDA-NEPAD will bear all costs related to any such travel, including ticket costs, hotel, subsistence, visas, etc.

## **10.0 Timeframe of the Assignment**

- The assignment is expected to be executed over a period of 50 person-days.

## **11.0 Copyrights**

Both data and materials used in this consultancy will be submitted to AUDA-NEPAD who retain copy rights to the report. Consultants may not divulge, extract, or quote national data or make reference to the outcomes of this assignment in other work without the expressed written permission of AUDA-NEPAD.