

**REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (CONSULTING SERVICES –
INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT)**

Country: Ethiopia

Name of Project: Strengthening of Food Safety Standards and Nutrition in Africa (SFNA)

Project ID: P-Z1-AAG-046

Assignment Title: Food Safety Expert

Reference No: AUC/AfDB/C/IC/010

The African Union Commission has received financing from the African Development Bank (ADB) toward the cost of the Strengthening of Food Safety Standards and Nutrition in Africa and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services.

The overall objective of the consultancy service is to ensure effective coordination of food safety activities with all stakeholders to ensure support and advice are accurate, responsive, timely, and in an appropriate manner. The Food Safety Expert will be responsible for managing all aspects of food safety and laboratory quality assurance systems for the SFNA project

The consultant will be part of the Project Implementation Unit and will work functionally under the SFNA Project Coordinator in expediting nutrition activities under the project in an effective and efficient manner and completing the activities within the duration of the project.

The following are the major responsibilities of the consultant;

- a) Develop and execute a comprehensive work plan to enhance stakeholder engagement, visibility, awareness, and understanding of the SFNA project's objectives, activities, and outcomes.
- b) Assist the SFNA Project Coordinator in the daily management of the Project in line with the area of responsibility.
- c) Facilitate harmonisation of food safety standards.
- d) Support implementation of laboratory quality assurance systems and upgrading of laboratories (national/ regional).
- e) Support establishment and operationalization of Regional Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (Regional -RASFF) to exchange information on direct or indirect food safety risks in the food chain.
- f) Support technical capacity building of smallholder farmers and SMMEs (Small, Micro, Medium Enterprises) on risk-based approaches for the control of hazards in priority regional value chains.
- g) Support organisation and facilitation of stakeholder workshops, and events to promote dialogue, knowledge sharing, and collaboration among project stakeholders.
- h) Create and maintain a database of stakeholders, monitor, collate and disseminate relevant information to the relevant audiences.
- i) Monitor project progress and handle any issues that arise in the area of responsibility.

- j) Draft reports and presentations as needed in the area of responsibility.
- k) Perform any other related duties as assigned.

The detailed Terms of Reference (TOR) for the assignment are attached to this Request for Expression of Interest.

The African Union Commission now invites eligible individuals (“Consultants”) to indicate their interest in providing the Services. Interested Consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services. The shortlisting criteria are:

A. QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

- Minimum of a Master’s Degree in either Food Science, Food Technology, Public Health, or a related discipline;
- At least 5 years working experience in the national food safety regulatory body.
- Knowledge and experience in participation in the relevant International Standards Setting Bodies.
- Experience in food safety assessments.
- At least 3 years of experience in implementation of laboratory quality assurance systems.
- Experience in working in the context of large and complex development projects.
- Computer literacy and competence, Microsoft Word, Excel, Access, Power Point;
- Proven ability to work and interact with people from diverse, professional, social and cultural backgrounds;
- Fluency in written and spoken English/French. Knowledge of other African Union working languages would be an added advantage;
- Excellent analytical skills and report writing.

B. OTHER REQUIREMENTS

- Excellent planning, organising and writing skills;
- Excellent communication skills, ability to work in multicultural environments, and ease in interpersonal relationships;
- Reliable and responsible personality and capacity to work under demanding professional circumstances and in an international environment;
- Excellent coordination and negotiation skills;
- Excellent organizational and record keeping skills;
- Experience in dealing with senior business executives and government officials;
- Good team player while being independent and able to work autonomously.

C. REFERENCES

- Verifiable references and membership of professional organization(s). Previous work experience in projects funded by the AfDB would be a strong advantage.

D. CONTRACT DURATION

- Contract duration will be for one (1) year with the possibility of extension based on the consultant's performance and availability of budget.

The selection procedure shall be in accordance with the African Development Bank's "Rules and Procedures for the use of Individual Consultants", which is available on the Bank's website at <http://www.afdb.org>.

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours *i.e. 0900 to 1700 hours*.

Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below (in person, or by mail, or by e-mail) by 07 May 2025

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