

## **Terms of Reference**

### **Contracting a part time individual consultant to conduct Environment / Climate impact mitigation activities of the Smallholder Agribusiness Partnership Programme (SAPP)**

#### **1. Background of the Programme**

The Smallholder Agribusiness Development Programme is designed to contribute Sri Lanka's smallholders' poverty reduction and competitiveness. Its primary objective is to sustainably increase household income and quality of family diet by establishing confirmed market for rural producers under Public Private Producer Partnership (4P) mechanism.

#### **2. Programme area and target group.**

The programme will have national coverage, though special attention and preference will be given to low income districts and areas where agri-production potential is high. The programme is demand-driven and the willingness and the equal commitment of programme partners (Rural farmers, Agribusiness companies, Banks, Insurance providers etc) are essential in reaching programme objectives. More emphasis will put forward in developing Producer/Farmer Organizations (POs /FOs) under SAPP to be in line with Government's policy and development agenda, and to ensure sustainability of supported Producer/Farmer Organizations within 4P mechanism. The target group of 57,500 poor rural households with the potential to become active economic players under commercially-oriented production and marketing systems with diverse array of value chains will be assisted under the programme.

#### **3. Programme Components**

##### *Component 01- Access to commercial partnerships*

This component includes two sub-components: (1.1) Establishing 4Ps (new 4Ps, NADeP scale ups, 4Ps with POs/FOs); and (1.2) Institutional strengthening and capacity building of Producer/ Farmer groups (within a market-driven model). A total of 35,000 households will be directly reached through 4P schemes and institutional strengthening interventions. Rural youth will also be considered (no. of 2500) under this component to become entrepreneurs and to respond the demand for services generated along value chain complements in 4Ps.

##### *Component 02 – Access to rural finance*

This component consists of two sub components: (2.1) Financing of 4Ps; and (2.2) Institutional strengthening for the financial services sector. The component follows the strategies, modes of intervention and investment opportunities that emerge under component 1 (to satisfy the credit requirements of 4Ps and youth entrepreneurs) and aims at facilitating access to rural financial services in a sustainable manner mostly through training and technical assistance.

##### *Component 03 - Programme management and policy dialogue*

This component comprises two sub-components: (3.1) Programme and knowledge management; and (3.2) Policy dialogue.

#### **4. Rationale and the objectives of the consultancy**

The SAPP is aware that the majority of local smallholder producers cannot provide the investments needed to transform their agricultural systems into more eco-friendly and sustainable systems due to high associated costs and lack of knowledge. Despite the efforts to build in 4P climate risk mitigation measures, the NADeP (predecessor of SAPP) has experienced serious delays in implementing approved 4Ps due to unfavourable climatic conditions in the form of severe drought and floods. It was observed that climate variability and unpredictability is an increasing national phenomenon, and there is insufficient capacity to foresee risks or understand implications at the level of the PMU or by the initiating private sector partner. Therefore clear cut instructions need to be followed when appraising the BPs (Business Proposals), during their implementation and post project evaluations.

On the other hand, micro and small enterprises (MSEs) operated in Agriculture sector locally, provides considerable number of employments in Agro value chains including food production. These sectors are highly vulnerable to climatic changes, especially floods and droughts etc. The ex NADeP learning has indicated that a farmer may not be able to access finance for key climate resilient inputs, or private sector partner may not be certain about the market demand for their climate resilient crops. Therefore adaptation investments need to be made more sustainably by targeting environment impact mitigation opportunities along the value chain.

In response to these issues, SAPP is to develop an Environment/ Climate impact mitigation strategy including a toolkit, training modules and an Action plan to integrate climate change adaptation into BP evaluation process aiming to safeguard livelihoods, raise agricultural production and boost food security.

#### **5. Primary objective**

The overall objective of the assignment is to integrate climatic issues in to BP evaluation process more precisely by means of a toolkit and possible training modules to assure that climatic impact being addressed from the project planning stage.

This will be a tool to justify, on environmental grounds, the acceptance, modification or rejection of BPs for financing and implementation. It will also provide the basis for guiding subsequent actions, which will ensure that the project is carried out taking into account the environmental issues identified in selected value chain.

Accordingly, the PMU is seeking to contract a consultant with environment and value chain expertise to develop Environment / Climate impact mitigation strategy and a toolkit, training modules for proper mapping and to suggest strategies to mitigate climatic risks of different agro value chains.

#### **6. Scope of work of the consultant**

The overall guidance will be given by PMU with special contributions from Business Development division. Accordingly, the consultant will undertake the following tasks, including:

1. Review relevant literature related to the SAPP programme, with particular focus on the IFAD guidelines on Climatic impact mitigation strategy in country context and develop programme environment/ climate adaptation strategy, Toolkit, Annual Action plan and implementation of activities parallel to 4P implementation.

2. Review relevant literature related to projects already mobilized SAPP for their climate resilient initiatives, their potentials and further improvements.
3. Identification of detailed environmental requirements of Agro value chains as directed by PMU.
4. Propose measures to consider in BP designing, negotiations, assessment and implementation.
5. Prepare compliance guidance for the identified value chains for mitigation interventions.
6. Compile a database as required by PMU to record vulnerabilities and corrective actions.
7. Design accompanying training modules.
8. Organize and conduct workshops including PMU staff.
8. Identification of possible policy related issues to environmentally sustain 4P projects.
10. Contact regulatory agencies/ related agencies to capture environment impact of the 4P projects at the designing stage and possible interventions during project implementation.

## **7. Roles and responsibilities**

Under the direct supervision of the programme director, the consultant will perform activities under following parameters to mainstream environment & climate adaptation activities of the programme.

### **7.1 Programme implementation responsibilities**

- Advise and support programme director, other members of the PMU and social mobilizers in the effective mainstreaming of environment & climate adaptation in 4P projects and youth start-ups
- In close collaboration with the PMU, develop environment & climate adaptation strategy, toolkit and action plan to be updated regularly.
  - Work with each consultant in the PMU in critically reviewing programme design to see how each component or subcomponent addresses climate adaptation issues, and identify potentials.
  - Review 4P implementation processes to provide feedback and suggestions on how to achieve the best possible project outcomes with respect to environment & climate adaptation activities.
- Ensure that activities of the environment strategy are fully devolved in the following.
  - AWPB preparation
  - Design and implementation of the programme M&E system & MIS
  - Programme progress reports
  - Programme supervision and mission reports
- Indication of the time frames, possible costs and resources needed to carry out thorough analysis for highly vulnerable specialized crops to mitigate environment risks.

- Participate in the development of detailed TORs and assist procurement specialist to select national and local service providers to conduct various programmes comply with AWPB activities and targets.

### **7.2 M&E and knowledge management responsibilities**

- Together with M&E and KM staff, establish a M&E system that captures and analyses environment and climate adaptation data.
- Document and share M&E, learning and communication products.
- Analyse data to ensure that there are no adverse impacts on programme beneficiaries as a result of programme Implementation, and suggest remedial measures if necessary.

### **7.3 Capacity building responsibilities**

- Undertake regular capacity assessment on addressing environment issues and provide capacity-building for staff at the field level, PMU, implementing partners and service providers.

### **7.4 Communication responsibilities**

- Continued liaising with IFAD Environment specialists through programme director on issues regarding environment sensitivity, knowledge sharing and other aspects and new developments.
- Serve as a channel of communication between the programme and others working on environment and climate adaptation issues in government, implementing agencies, other development projects and IFAD.
- Help programme colleagues access the information they may need on environment issues and share good practices and learned lessons.

### **7.5 Advocacy and networking responsibilities**

- Be familiar with and establish linkages with institutions linked to the programme, including national policies and those of ministries, implementing institutions, financing agencies and entities who conduct environment adaptability services.
- Present evidence based information on good practices in environment and climate adaptation activities of 4P projects and youth programme.

## **8. Competencies**

- Proven ability to undertake value chain analyses with climate change dimensions
- Previous experience in developing such tools and studies.
- Diverse understanding and clear knowledge on institutional arrangements, agricultural production, marketing and value chain/4P concept.
- Proficiency in English and excellent communication skills.
- Skills in designing and facilitating trainings and capacity building activities
- Demonstrable analytical skills and report writing skills.
- High degree of independence, flexibility and ability to meet strict deadlines.

## **9. Qualifications and Experience Required**

The consultant must present the following qualifications and Experience:

- (i) Master degree or higher degree (followed after a bachelor's degree) in environmental science, environmental engineering, sustainable and cleaner production, sustainable agriculture, sustainable development, climate change or related fields.
- (ii) A minimum of seven years progressive experience in inclusive agricultural value chain development.
- (iii) Experience in addressing climate change issues in the context of value chain development.
- (iv) Demonstrated experience in designing and facilitating tools and trainings on following categories, “Agricultural environmental impact mitigation, water management, Agro chemical usage, environmental assessment, cleaner production and pollution abatement, solid waste management, air pollution control and reduction etc”
- (v) Experience in similar assignments in donor funded projects will have an advantage
- (vi) Working knowledge of spoken and written English and ability to work independently in Microsoft Office Packages
- (vii) Ability to work in other local languages would also be considered advantageous
- (viii) High degree of independence, flexibility and ability to meet strict deadlines

## **10. Expected key outputs**

- Development of Climate/ environment adaptation strategy and toolkit for the programme
- Development of Annual Climate/ environment adaptation Action plan
- Conduct necessary training programmes and TOT programmes for each 4P & youth beneficiaries
- Development of knowledge products (brochures, leaflets, case studies etc) and identification of key policy interventions

## **11. Technical Criteria for Evaluation (Maximum 70 marks)**

- a. Criteria 1: Master degree in environment sustainability, climate change adaptation, sustainable agriculture, sustainable development or a related field - 15 marks
- b. Criteria 2: Demonstrated substantive experience (at least 7 years) in working with communities on climate resilient agriculture, undertaking policy studies and designing and conducting trainings and through participatory approaches, in the area of value chain development and climate change – 25 marks
- c. Criteria 3: Experience/familiarity of adaptation to climate change, technical expertise, and analytical skills on issues related to environment and sustainable agriculture, and value chains, with extensive research and documentation of publications and case studies - 20 marks;
- d. Criteria 4: Demonstrated substantive experience in working on policy and programmatic issues in multi-stakeholder processes that include national and local governments, private sector entities, Donor agencies and civil society organizations including community organizations - 5 marks;
- e. Criteria 5: Communication skills relevant to the position and experience in producing reports in English - 5 marks.

Balance marks will be awarded for the financial proposal and only candidates obtaining a minimum of 50 marks (70% of the total technical points) would be considered for the Financial Evaluation.

## **12. Work schedule and payment plan**

Since this service is for part time annual basis, fixed monthly payment will be made for the selected consultant. **He/She should provide 7 working days service to the PMU in each month of service.** He/she should submit the agreed work plan each month commencement and work done that should comply the monthly plan. Agreement will be extended based on the performance and the quality output delivery.

## **13. The proposal should be sent to the following address,**

Chairman  
Consultants Procurement Committee (Project)  
Smallholder Agribusiness Partnership Programme (SAPP)  
No 41, Renuka Building (1<sup>st</sup> floor), Janadhipathi Mawatha  
Colombo 01

### Note:

- Selected consultant has an access to receive programme documents after signing an agreement with PMU.
- The Copyrights of the related documentation/publications will be owned by SAPP.