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Agence Régionale pour l'Agriculture et l'Alimentation

ARAA



ECOWAS COMMISSION

Regional Agency for Agriculture and Food

RAAF

Call for applications

For the recruitment of staff for the implementation of the AECID Component of the Research and Innovation for Productive, Resilient and Healthy Agro-Pastoral Systems in West Africa Project – PRISMA.

Reference : ARAA/PRISMA/2022/SCI/18

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Deadline for Submission : 06 July 2022

1. Background and justification

Nearly 80% of rural families in the Sahel are engaged in livestock production, which is the main economic activity for at least 50 million people. It is largely based on the mobility of livestock in search of adequate fodder, depending on the season. This mobility is progressively hindered by the shrinking and degradation of grazing areas. This is due to the expansion of cultivated land and has recently been aggravated by the closure of access for herds to certain southern countries (Benin, Nigeria). To support the necessary transformation of livestock farming and the adaptation of this vital economic system, it is essential to promote the availability of feed for herds in general. This requires safeguarding and sustainable management of fodder in pastoral areas, but also increasing the availability of livestock feed, mainly from coastal countries. It is also necessary to protect the health of livestock and people, particularly from zoonoses, in areas where animals and human beings are increasingly living side by side.

The main constraints of livestock systems that the project would like to address are:

- 1) Access to pasture and the chronic fodder deficit;
- 2) Difficulty in accessing livestock feed;
- 3) Human and animal health issues, in relation to episodic outbreaks of zoonotic diseases.

In addition to the lack of knowledge about these constraints, there is a low level of exchange and sharing at national and regional levels, even though many interventions implemented in the region focus on these issues. In particular, few coordination bodies allow for cross-sector dialogue between the relevant ministries and the technical actors, which is necessary for synergising the various interventions and taking into consideration the results produced for the strategic orientation of public policies.

2. Project rationale

The 3 main constraints of the pastoral sector identified above, which the action proposes to target will be particularly impacted by these climate changes which are likely to cause i) a drastic reduction and degradation in pasture quality; ii) a fodder and food deficit; and iii) a change in the health pressure on livestock and on families. The decline in productivity resulting from the climate variability will affect pastoralists' incomes and increase their vulnerability. To mitigate the impact of climate change on pastoralists, it is essential to improve the strategies of pastoralists and agro-pastoralists through technical, economic, social and policy innovations that facilitate access to pasture and other food sources, while ensuring a satisfactory health situation for the animals and families.

The project is based on a participatory and multi-sectoral approach, involving North-South partnerships; it relies also on a strong mobilisation of local public and private operational structures, with a view to the adoption and promotion of research results by local stakeholders and policy-makers who can ensure scaling up at regional level.

PRISMA aims to generate applied research results and is in line with the regional guidelines defined to promote better consideration of climate change issues, securing pastoral systems and agro-pastoral development: e.g. N'Djamena and Nouakchott declarations, construction of a shared vision of mobile animal production systems in West Africa (ECOWAS). It will also make useful complementary contributions to various regional research or development projects by working in synergy with them.

Project data sheet

Title of the intervention	PRISMA Project: Research and Innovation for Productive, Resilient and Healthy Agro-Pastoral Systems in West Africa Project
Duration	4 years
Geographical area	ECOWAS and its Sahelian countries: Niger, Mali and Burkina Faso
Implementing partners	Enabel, AECID, LuxDev
Beneficiaries	Direct beneficiaries: technical services, research centres, POs and NGOs in Niger, Mali and Burkina Faso Indirect beneficiaries: pastoralists and agro-pastoralists in West Africa
General objective (GO)	To contribute to a climate change-adapted agro-ecological transformation of agro-pastoral systems to make them more productive, resilient and healthy for animals, humans and the environment.
Specific objectives (SO)	<p>SO1: Improve availability of and access to pastoral resources through sustainable management practices capable of adapting to climate change, tested by research and known by technical and social actors.</p> <p>SO2: Improve availability of and access to quality livestock feed at regional level, through better production and organisation of distribution.</p> <p>SO3: Limit the human health risks associated with the consumption of local milk through better control of zoonoses in the pastoral livestock sector.</p> <p>SO4: Contribute to national and regional sector-wide policies and strategies through good consultation with influential actors and good communication of the knowledge generated</p>
Expected intermediate results	<p>SO1.R1: Conditions necessary for scaling up existing and innovative best practices of sustainable, peaceful and efficient pastoral resource management are identified and capitalised on.</p> <p>SO1.R2: Decision support tools are developed based on research results, concerning improved pasture management and climate change adaptation</p> <p>SO2.R1: Feed distribution capacity is improved for LFBs and transhumant herders.</p> <p>SO2.R2: Capacities have been strengthened to improve availability of and access to quality livestock feed in West Africa</p> <p>SO3.R1: The prevalence of the main zoonoses and their impact on human health through milk consumption are known and monitored by the competent technical services</p> <p>SO3.R2: Dairy sector stakeholders are strengthened in making informed decisions to reduce the prevalence of zoonotic diseases in the dairy value chain</p> <p>SO4.R1: Information exchange and sharing between key stakeholders on the different themes of the Action is ensured</p>

	SO4.R2: Communication and dialogue on the results obtained and knowledge generated is ensured at national, regional and international level
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To help implement the Components under AECID responsibility, the ECOWAS Regional Agency for Agriculture and Food is considering recruiting 2 highly qualified experts:

- One AECID PRISMA Component Coordinator;
- One technical expert in pastoral resource management.

3. Project Coordinator for AECID PRISMA Component

3.1. Duties/Responsibilities

The Coordinator of the AECID Component of the EU-funded PRISMA project shall be responsible for the operational implementation of Specific Objective 2: "Improve the availability of and access to quality livestock feed (LF) at regional level, through improved production and distribution organisation and overall Programme coordination" and other activities under AECID responsibility, as part of the PRISMA project implementation. He/she shall also manage, on behalf of ARAA and AECID, the organisation, participation and implementation of events, working groups, etc. required by Specific Objective 4: "Contribute to national and regional sector-wide policies and strategies through good consultation with influential stakeholders and good communication of the knowledge generated". He/she shall be answerable to the Executive Director of ARAA, and shall be technically supervised by the Head of ARAA's Technical Operations Division.

As such, he/she shall be responsible for the following tasks:

- Coordinate the technical and financial implementation of PRISMA project activities under the responsibility of AECID in order to achieve the expected results in accordance with the project document and the Convention signed with the European Union;
 - Provide coordination and ensure complementarity with the activities of the other Components implemented by the consortium members, in particular ENABEL and LUXDEV;
 - Ensure administrative liaison with the DAF and technical liaison with the DOT of ARAA and ensure complementarity/synergy with other ARAA projects and programmes;
 - Prepare documents to be submitted to the European Union's non-objection opinions: work programme (AWPB), procurement plan, tender documents, contracts, etc.;
 - Monitor service providers that could be mobilised to support the implementation of the Programme (preparation of ToRs, signing of contracts, monitoring of services, payments, etc.);
 - Ensure stakeholders' commitment (POs, private sector, TFPs, etc.) to implementing the field activities;
 - Monitor activities at regional level and maintain close relationship with project implementers in the three beneficiary countries;
 - Ensure timely production of periodic project implementation reports as well as reports presented at the Programme Steering Committee, in accordance with donor and ECOWAS requirements;
 - Ensure monitoring and evaluation, knowledge generation and the completion of the project's Logical Framework;
- 5

- Develop consultation and collaboration with all project stakeholders and donors;
- Organise and contribute to the proper conduct of any external monitoring and evaluation mission commissioned by the European Union and/or ECOWAS as part of the project;
- Ensure systematic and continuous archiving of programme records throughout the life of the project;
- Ensure synergy and complementarity with programmes and other projects funded by the European Union and other donors in the countries and at regional level;
- Perform any other tasks related to the achievement of the project objectives.

3.2. Qualifications, experience, competence

Qualifications

- Hold a degree from a recognised university with a minimum of a Master's degree (Bac + 5 years) in the following fields: animal husbandry, pastoralism, veterinary medicine, agronomy, agro-economics, environmental science, etc.;

Experience required

- At least ten (10) years' experience in the management of development programmes/projects in the field of rural development, agriculture, livestock, pastoralism, natural resource management;
- At least five years' experience in implementing field activities in the field of livestock management, pastoralism and more specifically in livestock feed production and management;
- Have relevant experience as a development project coordinator at national or regional level;

Desired experience

In addition to the mandatory experiences listed above, the following experiences are also desired:

- Experience with bilateral donors;
- Experience of working with one of the ECOWAS institutions or agencies shall be a major asset.

Essential skills

- Good knowledge of pastoralism challenges and issues in West Africa;
- Good knowledge of the feed production and distribution sector in West Africa;
- Practical knowledge of working with pastoralist organisations, pastoral organisations and the private sector, including feed production units
- Good command of office automation tools (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, etc.);

Desired skills

- Knowledge of project/programme planning and implementation (including logical framework methodology, results-based management and project cycle methodology);
- Good knowledge of agricultural policies, animal production policies at country and ECOWAS level;
- Excellent leadership skills (autonomy, leadership of a multicultural team, active listening, ECOWAS representation, conflict management, delegation, etc.)
- Excellent communication skills (written/oral, interpersonal, negotiation, networking and presentation skills)
- Be familiar with a multicultural working environment;

Fluency in French and English (at least C1 level in both).

4. Technical expert in pastoral resource management

4.1. Duties/Responsibilities

The Technical Expert in Pastoral Resource Management in charge of the AECID Component of the EU-funded PRISMA project shall be responsible for the technical implementation of the activities of Specific Objective 2: "Improve the availability of and access to quality livestock feed (LF) at regional level, through better production and organisation of distribution and overall coordination of the Programme". He/she shall also contribute, on behalf of ARAA, to the organisation, participation and implementation of events, working groups, etc. required by Specific Objective 4: "Contribute to national and regional sector-wide policies and strategies through good consultation with influential stakeholders and good communication of the knowledge generated". He/she shall be placed under the hierarchical authority of ARAA's Executive Director, and the technical supervision of the AECID PRISMA project Coordinator.

In this capacity, he/she shall be in charge of the following tasks:

- Ensure the planning and technical implementation of the activities of Specific Objective 2 of the PRISMA project;
- Prepare and technically supervise the activities implemented by service providers recruited to carry out the project activities;
- Supervise the drafting of the project technical documents in animal feed nutrition and pastoralism;
- Contribute to the collection and analysis of data necessary to ensure monitoring and evaluation, knowledge generation in the context of pastoralism and the Project Logical Framework completion;
- Ensure implementation and complementarity of activities with the other Components implemented by the members of the project implementation consortium, notably ENABEL and LUXDEV;
- Monitor the activities of service providers that could be mobilised to support the Programme implementation (ToR preparation, signing of contracts, monitoring of services, payments, etc.);
- Contribute to the timely production of periodic project implementation reports as well as reports presented at the Programme Steering Committee, in line with donor and ECOWAS requirements;
- Contribute to the proper execution of any external monitoring and evaluation mission commissioned by the European Union and/or ECOWAS as part of the project;
- Ensure systematic and continuous archiving of the Programme's records;
- Perform any other tasks related to the achievement of the project objectives.

4.2. Qualifications, experience and competence

Qualifications

- Have at least a Master's degree or an engineering degree in animal production, zootechnics, pastoralism, veterinary,

Experiences required

- Have at least 7 years' experience in the development and implementation of programmes and projects in the field of animal nutrition, pastoralism and natural resource management;



- Have a good knowledge of livestock project and programme management and team management;
- Have relevant experience in project monitoring and evaluation in the field of pastoralism and livestock feeding;

Desired experience

In addition to the mandatory experiences listed above, the following experiences are also desired:

- Experience in technical and organisational capacity building in the feed and pastoral sector;
- Flexible, able to work in a team in a multicultural environment and under pressure;
- Demonstrate good organisational skills, rigour and good character;
- Experience in an EU-funded project;
- Experience of working with one of the ECOWAS institutions or agencies shall be a major asset.

Competencies

- Good knowledge of the pastoralist sector and the production and distribution of livestock feed in West Africa;
- Practical knowledge of working with pastoralists' organisations, pastoral organisations and the private sector, including feed production units;
- Knowledge of project/programme planning and implementation (including logical framework methodology, results-based management and project cycle methodology);
- Good command of office automation tools (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, etc.);
- Be familiar with a multicultural working environment;
- Fluency in French and English (at least C1 level in both).

5. General conditions for all positions

5.1. Place, duration and beginning of the mission

- The staff will be based in Lomé, at the Regional Agency for Agriculture and Food (RAAF);
- Duration of the mission is one year. The contract could be renewed for the full lifetime of the Project based on the consultant performance and funds availability;
- The position is full-time;
- The Consultant shall abstain from any situation which could put him/her in conflicts interests within the framework of the mission assigned to him/her.

5.2. Application package

Application package consists of :

- a letter of expression of interest signed, including the date of availability,
- a recent curriculum vitae signed, providing details on professional experience and similar missions,
- Three professional references (full name, current and previous functions, telephone and email contacts),
- Certified copy of the highest diploma,
- Copies of work certificates or provision of services, as listed in the curriculum vitae.

5.3. Submission of applications

Applications are received at the latest on **06th July 2022**, at 17H00 GMT, hand-delivered or by email at the following addresses:

Regional Agency for Agriculture and Food (RAAF),

83, Rue de la Pâture, Lomé, Togo (in a sealed envelope marked: “Application for the position of Consultant, **PLEASE SPECIFY THE POSITION, for the AECID Component of PRISMA)”**

Email: recrutements.consultants@araa.org

Subject: “Application for the position of Consultant, **PLEASE SPECIFY THE POSITION, for the AECID Component of PRISMA)”**

5.4. Method of selection

Consultants will be selected according to selection method based on qualification as defined method as defined in the ECOWAS Public Procurement Code. An interview may be organized with shortlisted candidates.

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted. RAAF reserves the right not to proceed with this call for applications.

Women and people with reduce mobility are strongly encouraged to apply for both positions.

The Executive Director


SALIFOU Ousseini

