



Regional Agency for Agriculture and Food
Agence Régionale pour l'Agriculture et l'Alimentation
Agência Regional da Agricultura e Alimentação



Notice of Expressions of Interest

Terms of reference

Selection of an international consultant in climate change/climate finance to support the implementation of the ECOWAS Regional Climate Strategy.

Reference:	ARAA/FVC/2025/SCI/13
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Deadline for response	May 15, 2025

1. Background and rationale

The Member States of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) have all submitted their NDCs under the 1st ambition cycle of the Paris Agreement and updated them in 2021. These revised NDCs, while highlighting the high vulnerability of the agriculture sector, the nature of the commitments and the formulation of the objectives are very different from one country to another. Most member states have presented conditional emission reduction targets, subject to the mobilisation of international climate finance. Climate change is a priority issue for West Africa. "Acting Together" within the framework of regional solidarity is an absolute necessity to enable the West African region to reduce its vulnerability and collectively face the risks induced by the impacts of climate change.

In this perspective, at the 88th Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers in June 2022, ECOWAS adopted its first [Regional Climate Strategy](#) (RSC) and its 2022-2030 action plan. The objective is to support Member States in meeting the challenge of the fight against climate change, in particular by supporting the fulfilment of their commitments made under the Paris Agreement. The cost of implementing the action plan is \$95,320,000, of which \$13,620,000 is for the agricultural sector. The implementation of the SRC requires the ECOWAS Commission, its specialized agencies and its Member States to mobilize financial resources, put in place operational mechanisms and acquire technical capacities in order to achieve the objectives assigned in this strategy.

Therefore, the ECOWAS strategy for mobilizing and accessing climate finance was adopted in order to improve access to and mobilization of climate finance and the implementation of priority mitigation and adaptation actions. This strategy is preceded by a technical assessment of the financing needs identified by ECOWAS countries, in line with the objectives set out in the relevant national reports, policies and strategies. The governance of the RSC is based on the principle of consultation among stakeholders to promote the integration of climate change considerations and the coordinated formulation of programs and measures, as part of a dynamic approach and continuous improvement.

Considering the importance of establishing a framework for monitoring climate finance flows, ECOWAS has taken the initiative to promote regular monitoring of climate finance flows to the ECOWAS-CILSS region by listing the financing received, particularly from international sources, whether multilateral or bilateral. Thus, a first edition of the Climate Finance Flow Mapping was published in 2020 covering the period from 2003 to 2019 (February) with an estimated total balance sheet of US\$1,377 million from multilateral sources. A second edition of this climate finance flow mapping, validated in September 2022 and covering the period from March 2019 to June 2022, highlighted a volume of US\$3,888 million from multilateral and bilateral sources, where multilateral finance alone accounts for more than 86% of international finance. These first editions (2020, 2022) highlighted the great disparities between the countries of the region on the one hand, and the large gap between the resources actually mobilized and the needs expressed by the countries on the other, particularly in view of the commitments made under the Paris Agreement. According to the revised NDCs of the countries of the ECOWAS-CILSS region, the climate finance need to implement all mitigation and adaptation actions is estimated at US\$340,234.22 million.

In this context and to address this climate finance gap, ECOWAS, through the ECOWAS Regional Agency for Agriculture and Food (RAAF), has strengthened its collaboration with international funds dedicated to climate action, in particular the Green Climate Fund, which is the largest fund dedicated to climate. With this in mind, RAAF has secured funding from the Green Climate Fund (GCF) to support Member States (Benin, Burkina Faso, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Senegal and Togo) in preparing for access to climate finance through (i) institutional and technical capacity building, (ii) preparation and submission of project portfolios and (iii) knowledge sharing and learning.

This regional preparatory programme will support the Directorate of Environment and Natural Resources, which is responsible for leading the paradigm shift necessary for the implementation of the SRC, through the strengthening of climate governance and the coordination framework within the ECOWAS Commission and, in its relations with Member States, in the monitoring and evaluation of the SRC's orientations. These terms of reference are developed for the recruitment of an international consultant.

2. Mission objectives

The consultant will be responsible for providing technical support to the Directorate of Environment and Natural Resources of the ECOWAS Commission in the design and development of tools and instruments for the coordination, monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the SRC.

3. Missions and mandates

Under the supervision of the Environment and Natural Resources Coordination and Directorate, the Consultant will be responsible for:

- Identify gaps in sectoral policies, strategies and programmes for climate change mainstreaming;
- develop a methodological guide for the consideration of Climate Change in the policies and plans of priority sectors (ECOWAP, Energy Policy, Water Policy, Infrastructure, etc.) and to (I) make regional policies and measures climate-compatible, (II) assess the compliance of sectoral programs and investments with the SRC and (III) share the knowledge and skills necessary for the integration of climate into the action plans of the directorates and agencies;
- Provide technical support for the identification of climate finance opportunities in the ECOWAS region;
- Propose a technical and policy brief on climate finance in West Africa;
- Develop a compendium of climate finance opportunities and proposals for fiscal and non-fiscal measures to mobilize domestically and bilateral and multilateral finance;
- Analyze the challenges and opportunities of setting up a structure recommended by the SRC: Climate Operational Unit for Climate Integration in the Commission's Sectoral Mandates;
- Establish the consolidated monitoring and evaluation framework for the action plans of the ECOWAS Commission's directorates and agencies to monitor the progress made on the gradual integration of the climate dimension into the Commission's action.

4. Expected deliverables

- A scoping note including the schedule of the mission;
- A technical note on the challenges and opportunities for setting up the unit including tools for coordination, monitoring and consolidated evaluation of action plans;
- A technical and policy brief on climate finance in West Africa, including a compendium of financing opportunities and proposals for fiscal and non-fiscal measures to mobilize resources at the national level, and bilateral and multilateral financing;
- A methodological guide for the integration of climate change into regional sectoral policies and plans.

5. Candidate Profile

5.1. Education

University degree (Bac+5) in environmental economics, development economics, international development, environmental and/or climate change management, sustainable finance or any other degree related to the position.

5.2. Professional experience

- At least ten (10) years of relevant professional experience in the development of climate change plans, strategies and programmes;
- At least five (05) experiences in supporting national and/or regional institutions in the assessment or

implementation of an environment and/or climate change management structure;

- At least five (05) experiences in mobilizing partnerships and climate finance;
- At least three (03) missions in the development of guides for the integration of the environment or climate change into sectoral policies and plans;
- Good communication skills and prepare reports of regional scope;
- Good knowledge of ECOWAS environmental and climate issues.

5.3. Tongue

Be proficient in one of the official languages of ECOWAS: English, French or Portuguese. A working knowledge of another language would be an added advantage.

6. Mission Duration

The duration of the mission is sixty (60) days.

7. Selection procedures

7.1. Eligibility and qualifications

The ECOWAS Commission, through the Regional Agency for Agriculture and Food (RAAF) hereby invites natural persons to express their interest in providing the required services by providing information demonstrating that it has the required qualifications and relevant experience to carry out the mission. The criteria of qualifications and experience better described in the terms of reference.

The attention of interested individual consultants is particularly drawn to Article 117 of the revised ECOWAS Public Procurement Code ("Infringements by Candidates, Bidders and Winners"), which provides information on corrupt or fraudulent practices in competition or contract performance. In addition, please refer to the following specific information on conflicts of interest related to this assignment in accordance with Article 118 of the revised ECOWAS Public Procurement Code.

7.2. Application form

The expression of interest file consists of:

- A letter of expression of interest, including the period of availability;
- A recent curriculum vitae detailing professional experience and similar assignments;
- Three professional references (first and last names, current functions, functions at the time of collaboration with the Consultant, email and telephone contacts);
- Certified copy of diploma(s);
- Copy of the certificates of work or service rendered, listed in the curriculum vitae.

8. Receipt of applications

- Deadline for receipt of applications: 15 May 2025 at 00:00 GMT.
- Submission links: Applications will be submitted by upload to: Drive <https://bit.ly/3RLyarA>
- Application format: The application must be in the form of a single PDF file.
- ARAA reserves the right not to consider applications that do not meet the above submission requirements.

9. Selection Method

A consultant will be selected according to the method of individual consultant selection outlined in the ECOWAS "Procurement Regulations." An interview to assess knowledge, skills and abilities may be arranged with the best candidates. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted. The ARAA reserves the right not to act on this opinion.

10. Request for further information

Interested consultants can obtain further information by writing to the following e-mail addresses: procurement@araa.org cc: ctienon@araa.org , lbarnabo@araa.org , bkpessiglo@araa.org with the subject line « **SCI13-FVC–consultant changement climatique** ».