SAMPLE TORS

for sociologist (Institutions, Gender and Targeting Specialist) on a project design mission

In the context of the Smallholder Agriculture Support Project in Country X, you will participate in the project’s design mission under the general supervision of the Mission Leader and the overall guidance of the Task Manager of the International Financing Institution.

Your work will focus on an analysis of the target group, i.e. smallholder farmers, with special attention to the operation of farmer organizations and community driven development. Emphasis will be on improving the capacity of smallholders and their organizations to be better able to access agricultural inputs and markets for their produce as well as advisory and extension services.

You will work in close collaboration with all the members of the design team to ensure that the project design and the proposed interventions are based on a thorough poverty analysis and will specifically target (and benefit) poor rural households, with particular attention to women. Specifically you will:

- Review recent experiences in the country with farmer groups in productivity support programs, and determine how such groups might be supported as an activity within the Project (desk work).

- Explore linkages with other programs and projects involved with input supplies, marketing and extension services (desk work).

- Undertake target group identification and analysis, and develop the targeting strategy together with the implementation mechanisms.

- Work with the team leader to further define the target group and to devise specific mechanisms to ensure their inclusion in project activities. In doing so, ensure that the special concerns of the vulnerable groups are taken into consideration.

- Ensure that the project design accurately reflects the needs, capacities and aspirations of the target group.

- In collaboration with other team members, propose activities and operational modalities to support smallholder farmer groups, as well as their apex organizations/associations, to enhance their farming operations.

- Assess the capacity of agricultural extension services (both government and NGO) to meet the needs of smallholders, and formulate adequate support measures to improve their performance in servicing the project’s target group.

Assist other team members to ensure that gender and HIV/AIDS considerations are mainstreamed into project design, and that the project develops effective mechanisms for the inclusion of poorer households, women and youth.