



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Terms of Reference for Consultant /PSA

Minimum number of years of relevant experience required: 1yr 5yrs 12+yrs

Job Title:	Crop Assessment Supervisor/Trainer	
Division/Department:	FRSSD	
Programme/Project Number: AFIS- GCP/SSD/003/EC		
Location:	Juba, South Sudan with field missions for approximately 60% of the working days	
Expected Start Date of Assignment:	1/04/2015	Duration: 8 months
Reports to: <i>Name:</i> Erminio Sacco	Title:	AFIS project CTA

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF TASK(S) AND OBJECTIVES TO BE ACHIEVED

Background and Justification

The project "Agriculture and Food Information System for Decision Support (AFIS) for South Sudan" is a three year project, started in January 2013 and funded by the European Union (EU) with an additional funding from the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) through a delegated cooperation arrangement with the EU.

The AFIS project is the core initiative of an FAO South Sudan programmatic area. Complementary components being undertaken within FAO and its key partners GRSS including Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Cooperatives and Rural Development-MAFC&RD, National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), UN agencies and NGOs.

Systematic and accurate national crop production assessments are necessary for purposes of producing reliable statistics to provide information on crop yields and production. Currently, GRSS requires significant technical and operational support from FAO to produce such essential public goods. Capacity development of its partners to conduct quality crop production assessments to inform decision makers is a primary AFIS project objective. In 2014, the AFIS project piloted a methodology and road map – developed by Dr Ian Robinson of AA International - for improved crop assessments, based on a staggered approach to collect data in the various agro-ecological zones according to the specific cropping patterns - including 2 crop planting and 5 crop harvest assessments.

AFIS and its partners made good progress in training the first cadre of members drawn from GRSS partners. However, the agro-ecological diversity and large size of the country, combined with low GRSS capacity at national and state levels, require intensive investment to build adequate human skills and data systems. To ensure efficient roll out of these trainings and properly supervised field crop production assessments and timely reporting, FAO would like to hire a Crop Assessment Supervisor/Trainer.

Objectives to be achieved by the Consultant

The Consultant will work under the overall supervision of the FAO Representative for South Sudan, the direct supervision of the AFIS Chief Technical Advisor (CTA), the technical support of the FAO Team and in close cooperation with local authorities.

The consultant will work closely with crop assessment mission teams in South Sudan as well as the final mission aimed at collating all available crop assessments conducted over the production season for purposes of estimating the annual food balance sheet (joint FAO/WFP Crop and Food Security Assessment Mission). At state level, the post holder will lead the process of capacity development through identifying additional people training, field supervision and reporting. The Consultant will ensure full compliance with the FAO AFIS project partnership policy at state level.

Considering the decision making requirements to address widespread food insecurity and the prevailing constraints in terms of institutional context and technical capacity, the Consultant will:

1. Crop assessment capacity building and training at national and state level:

- Identify right candidates from FAO SS, GRSS ministries and departments and partners to be trained in crop assessment methodology.
- Prepare and administer classroom and field training on crop assessment.
- Select right candidates based on performance during the training process to be included in the field assessment teams.
- Produce a training report.

2. Supervise crop assessments and quality control:

- Organize and coordinate field assessments with partners.
- Conduct refresher trainings at the start of each field mission.
- Supervise field teams to ensure good quality data is collected.
- Summarize crop assessment information into reports at the end of each field mission.

3. Expansion of data collection mechanisms and partnerships.

- a. Through the Food Security and Livelihoods Cluster mechanism, create awareness of crop assessments and enlist partners to participate.
- b. Create a border network of actors to participate in crop assessments in South Sudan.
- c. Expand the network that utilizes the crop production information for decision making.
- d. Encourage use of crop assessment information for IPC analysis at state level.

4. Any other duties as requested from time to time

Technical Competencies and Experience Requirements

- Hold a degree in Agriculture, Crop production, Natural Resources Management, Social Sciences.
- At least five years of working experience with crop and agronomic assessments.
- Good knowledge of the working environment of the UN, NGOs and the government
- Excellent command of written and spoken English
- Good communication, writing and presentation skills
- Excellent networking skills to promote partnership and team work
- Working experience in complex emergencies is an asset.
- The consultant should have demonstrated experience with crop assessments analysis methods, information systems, partnerships, and capacity building. Moreover, the consultant should have direct experience with challenging political and working contexts.

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Expected Outputs:

1. A functioning crop assessment system at sub-national level
2. Enhanced stakeholder coordination

Required Completion Date:

End of assignment
on-going
on-going

3. Effective and timely flow of information between area and national levels	as required
4. Crop assessment reports timely produced and disseminated	as required
5. Assessments timely coordinated and implemented	as required
6. Effective contribution to AFIS processes and initiatives	as required
7. Area IPC products enhanced at state level	End of assignment
8. End of assignment report	

HOW TO APPLY

Interested applicants are required to create an online Personal Profile form (PPF) in iRecruitment. To create the PPF, please follow the instructions available at:
<http://www.fao.org/employment/irecruitment-access/en/>

The PPF should be sent via e-mail to : VA-FAOSS-2014@fao.org

Deadline for application: **11 March 2015**

Applications received after the closing date will not be given consideration. Only short listed candidates will be contacted.