

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST



AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK GROUP AGRICULTURE AND AGRO-INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT (AHAI)/SOUTH SUDAN COUNTRY OFFICE (COSS)

South Sudan: Request for Expressions of Interest from Individual Consultants to provide portfolio management support in the Agriculture Sector Operations.

1. The Agriculture and Agro-industry Department – East Division (AHAI-4) and the South Sudan Country Office (COSS), wish to recruit the services of a medium-term consultant to support portfolio management and business development of operations in the Agriculture Sector in South Sudan. Detailed Terms of Reference for the Assignment is included in Annex 3.
2. The AHAI-4/COSS invites Individual Consultants to indicate their interest in providing the above-described services. Interested Consultants shall provide information through their CV on their qualifications and experience demonstrating their ability to undertake this Assignment (documents, reference to similar services, experience in similar assignments, etc.).
3. The eligibility criteria, the establishment of a shortlist and the selection procedure shall conform with the Bank's procedures set out in the Procurement Policy for operations financed by the Bank Group, October 2015 Edition, available on the Bank Website at <http://www.afdb.org>. Please, note that interest expressed by a consultant does not imply any obligation on the part of the Bank to include him/her in the shortlist.
4. The estimated duration of services is 12 months, and the estimated starting date is **1st September 2024**. The consultant is expected to be based at the Bank's Country Office in Juba, South Sudan, for the duration of the contract. The Consultant may be required to join Bank missions as may be required from time to time.
5. Interested Individual Consultants may obtain further information at the address below during the Bank's working hours: 8:00 am – 5:00 pm Nairobi time.
6. Expressions of interest and updated CVs must be received by email below no later than 15th August 2024 at 5 pm local time to a.makokha@afdb.org and specifically mentioning "EOI for Portfolio management support-South Sudan".

Establishment of the Shortlist

7. A shortlist of three to six individual consultants will be established at the end of the request for expressions of interest. The consultants on the shortlist will be evaluated on the following criteria on the basis of their updated resume.

Evaluation Criteria

1. Academic qualifications - 10%
2. Years of relevant experience - 20%
3. Experience in the specific assignments described in the TOR and suitability for the task to be performed - 45%
4. Experience with international organizations - 15%
5. Language proficiency - 10%

ANNEX: Terms of Reference for Individual Consultant to provide portfolio management support in the Agriculture Sector Operations in South Sudan.

1. Introduction and objectives

The African Development Bank (the Bank or AfDB) is a Multilateral Development Bank established in 1964 to catalyze sustainable economic development and social progress in its Regional Member Countries (RMCs), thus contributing to poverty reduction. Through its enhanced decentralized structure, the Bank currently operates in 39 Country Offices across the African continent. The Bank Group's Agriculture Strategy aims to end hunger and rural poverty by 2030 in line with the international Strategic Goals (SDGs) numbers 1 and 2, by strengthening self-sufficiency and export performance in 15 priority commodity value chains in which the continent's agroecological zones potentially have international competitiveness. Realization of the strategy objectives of raising agricultural productivity, increasing value addition along entire value chains, boosting investment in infrastructure, and creating an enabling agribusiness environment for increasing capital investment flows into the agricultural sector in support of sustainable food and nutrition security calls for strengthened collaborations with stakeholders and development partners.

The Agriculture and Agro-industry Department – East Division (AHAI-4) is responsible for providing deep sector knowledge, operational expertise, lessons, and best practices to each of the RMCs in the East Africa Regional Business Delivery Centre (RDGE) in the field of agriculture in general, and agroindustry and agribusiness development, especially. The Division is responsible for providing technical expertise and quality assurance to RDGE in operations cycle activities (from identification, preparation, origination due diligence, appraisal and negotiation, implementation support and monitoring, and completion review). It undertakes sector studies, develops guidelines, toolkits, and other products to enhance learning on thematic areas of agricultural development, and prepares periodic status reports for Senior Management and the Board of Directors on the delivery of the *Feed Africa* priority in East Africa. AHAI-4 is also responsible for leading the delivery of non-sovereign operations, as well as multi-regional and continental operations, and those that pilot complex or innovative approaches to agricultural development, agroindustry, and agribusiness.

The Bank started supporting operations in South Sudan in 2012, of which the portfolio has grown from USD 5 million to the current cumulative amount of USD 181 million. These interventions



cut across several sectors, notably agriculture, energy, education, governance among others. To date, the Bank supports 14 ongoing operations with a total commitment of USD 165.21 million, focusing on agriculture (42%), skills and social development (16%), public financial management (15%), water supply and sanitation (14%), energy (9%), and financial sector (4%). The ongoing agriculture portfolio consists of five projects (UA 51.65 million), namely: the Program to Build Resilience for Food and Nutrition Security in the Horn of Africa (UA 29.3 million); the Agricultural Markets, Value Addition and Trade Development Project (UA 10 million); the South Sudan-Africa Emergency Food Production Facility, (UA 6 million); the Regional Project for Strengthening Emergency Preparedness and Responses to Food Crises (UA 2 million); and Additional Financing for BREFONS through the Africa Disaster Risk Financing Program - ADRiFi (UA 4.3). The Bank is also finalizing the preparation of the Climate Resilient Agri-Food Systems Transformation (CRAFT) estimated to cost about UA 80 million under the framework of the Country Food and Agriculture Delivery Compact.

2. Context

A High-Level Summit of 34 African Heads of State and Heads of Government, 75 Ministers and Heads of International and Bilateral Development Organizations, Leaders of the private sector and development partners co-hosted by the Bank and Government of Senegal was held in Dakar January 22-27 to mobilize political, financial, and technical support for agricultural transformation on the continent at scale. The High-Level Summit on Feed Africa: Food Sovereignty and Resilience, also known as Dakar 2, is a part of the Bank's Feed Africa Strategy (2016-2025) that seeks to transform African agriculture into a competitive, inclusive, and agribusiness-oriented sector that provides food and nutrition security for Africans, creates economic opportunities, and improves livelihoods of rural African communities.

At the Dakar 2 Summit, the Government of the Republic of South Sudan presented its Country Food and Agriculture Delivery Compact that outlined production targets for key agricultural staples, a road map to reach those targets, and enabling policies, including smallholder farmers support, rural infrastructure, innovative financing amongst other policies. The Compact aims to increase production and productivity and improve food security and nutrition towards transformation of agriculture and livestock sectors. The Compact prioritizes targets for four key staples, sorghum, rice, sesame and fisheries, with enabling factors: food value chains; resilience through community-based approaches; sustainable agricultural production through Farmers Organizations; investing in transport, storage, infrastructure, and enhancing markets.

In order to accelerate the implementation of the South Sudan Country Food and Agriculture Delivery Compact, the Government of South Sudan has requested the Bank to finance a bold, results oriented and transformative programme to improve food self-sufficiency, improve nutrition and build resilience, while devoting particular attention to women empowerment and youth participation. The new programme, Climate Resilient Agri-Food Systems Transformation (CRAFT), is estimated to cost about USD 80 million over a five-year period. The CRAFT's programme development objective is to increase agricultural productivity and production, create



jobs, and to build resilience and equitable development for women and youth. Project interventions will achieve this objective through implementation of activities under three components: 1) Developing climate adaptive and resilient production systems; 2) Strengthening value chain development and entrepreneurship for women and the youth, and 3) Digitalization and skills for jobs and entrepreneurship. These will result in increased climate-adaptive and resilient production systems and productivity of priority value chains; more profitable agribusinesses and jobs for women and the youth; and enhanced technical and entrepreneurial skills and use of digital agricultural solutions. Combined, project results will contribute to achieving higher-level impacts of increased food security, incomes, and climate-resilience as well as reduction in insecurity and fragility.

The Programme is aligned with the AfDB's 2022-2026 Strategy for Addressing Fragility and Building Resilience in Africa, and will be partially funded by the Prevention Envelope of the Transition Support Facility. It adopts a results-driven approach and long-term perspective and promotes partnerships for integrated and regional solutions that leverage different sources of funding and financial instruments. The COMPACT is also targeting additional resources from the Bank's Climate Action Window (CAW) that was created to help farmers and food producers to access climate smart agriculture technologies such as drought-resistant crops, efficient irrigation systems, and renewable energy systems that can help enhance agricultural productivity, improve food security, increase resilience to climate change, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, contributing to a more sustainable and resilient agricultural system that promotes poverty reduction, environmental sustainability, and overall development in the region.

In order to realize the commitments of the Dakar 2 Feed Africa Summit, strong technical support will be crucial to develop quality and impactful public and private investment at country level and achieve food security in the continent, in line with the Feed Africa Strategy. The Bank operates a Technical Support Facility for Investments in Country Food and Agriculture Delivery Compacts in Transition States of Central and Eastern Africa (TSF4IC), whose objective is to strengthen national capacity to identify, plan, formulate, implement and monitor country food and agriculture delivery compacts in Transition States in Central and East Africa. It aims at enhancing quality at entry, delivering effective and timely operations and improving portfolio performance, and building a critical mass of investment experts to mobilize additional resources and develop business for the Bank. The Consultancy will be funded under the aegis of the Technical Support Facility for Investments in Country Food and Agriculture Delivery Compacts in Transition States of Central and Eastern Africa (TSF4IC).

3. Scope of the Work

Under the overall guidance of the Regional Sector Manager (AHAI4), the Country Manager COSS and the direct supervision of the Task Managers (TM), the Consultant shall undertake the following tasks:

- **Portfolio quality and performance:** Support the TMs in ensuring the realization of the key performance indicators (KPIs) related to portfolio management and quality, strategic dialogue and business delivery. Assist the TMs in reviewing and processing requests sent for Bank clearance to ensure timely response and feedback. Review and advise on the



general performance of the project including implementation of the project against the objectives set and outputs, procurement and disbursement: Provide guidance/coaching to PIU/PIT staff on the Bank procurement policies and procedures (where applicable), and review and address the procurement plans and pending issues, in terms of their disbursement levels, delivery of their targets, and any issues relating to quality and timeliness in completion.

- **Programme Implementation support:** Support the implementation of the Country Food and Agriculture Delivery Compact with time-bound and clearly measurable indicators for success, including concrete national policies, incentives, and regulations to establish an enabling environment for wider and accelerated investments across the agriculture sector. Support the Task Managers and the Executing Agency in addressing any capacity related challenges; and accelerate implementation and delivery of project activities in line with project implementation timeframes; Conduct supervision and implementation support missions as required and ensure that implementation progress reports, medium term review reports, project completion reports and related documents are duly filled;
- **Policy dialogue and support:** Coordinate policy dialogue with Government, including advice and support to the GoSS to (i) organize a Compact roundtable dialogue and follow up on action plan; (ii) develop and implement an efficient monitoring and evaluation systems; (iii) review and update policies for seed systems development, irrigation management and digital agriculture; (iv) support the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security to ensure effective coordination across technical ministries, development partners, private sector and civil society actors for the effective implementation of the Compact.
- **Building Relationships and Using Influence:** Provide support on the Bank's participation and contribution to the activities of the Agriculture and Natural Resources Sector Working Group, and collaboration and synergies with IFAD, USAID, the World Bank, JICA, FAO, WFP and other bilateral and multilateral development organisations supporting the sector in South Sudan.
- **Pipeline Development:** Contribute to the development and management of a diversified and robust pipeline of projects, programs and analytical work through identification and preparation activities; Identify co-financing opportunities and organization of joint promotional activities.
- **Economic Sector Works (ESWs):** Coordinate various ESW to support the implementation of the Country Compact, studies to inform design of new operations, feasibility studies to promote quality at entry on new operations and to bolster national policies through dialogue.
- **Country Office Reports:** Contribute agriculture portfolio performance review to the regular reports prepared by the Country Office, such as Country Briefs, African Economic Outlook, South Sudan Country Strategy Paper and related documents, Country Focus Report, etc.

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