

## ADVERTISEMENT FOR CONSULTANCY SERVICES

### Terms of Reference – Food Scientist – P89

Fondation Caritas Luxembourg (FCL) is an international non-government organization active across 11 countries. In South Sudan, FCL implements Food Security and Livelihood, Nutrition, Health, WASH and Humanitarian Aid projects in Central and Eastern Equatoria States. FCL is currently searching for a Food Scientist.

#### Context of the Mission

Caritas Luxembourg has been present in South Sudan since 2006, carrying out humanitarian projects. Through its main office in Torit, in Eastern Equatoria State, Caritas Luxembourg implements Food Security and Livelihoods, Nutrition and Health projects in collaboration with local NGOs, the Diocese of Torit, local authorities, and in consultation with other key stakeholders including the government. A Field Office in Palotaka, under the Area Project Coordinator, holds a bigger project portfolio with extensive implementation responsibility covering the greater Magwi County. In addition to Magwi County, Caritas Luxembourg in South Sudan also works in Torit, Ikwoto and Kapoeta South Counties. The projects implemented by Caritas Luxembourg are mainly supported by the Government of Luxembourg, through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and additional annual and ad hoc livelihood projects funding is secured from UN Agencies including UN FAO, UN WFP, UNMISS and UNICEF. Caritas Luxembourg- South Sudan programme employs about 48 staff members, most of whom are South Sudanese.

Caritas Luxembourg has embarked on expanding the nutrition programme as its strategic sector in South Sudan, and this involves the production and distribution of nutrient dense flour to combat malnutrition among children and pregnant women in South Sudan. The production and nutrition dense flour has been going on for over 5 years and the organization is now undertaking bold steps towards the standardization of the nutrient recipes of the materials used in the production of nutrient dense flour and the product certification, in a bid to scale up the nutrient dense flour processing and distribution as a solution to addressing malnutrition in South Sudan. Caritas Luxembourg is also exploring the establishment of strategic and operational partnerships to leverage the production and distribution of nutrient dense flour through a sustainable commercial approach that involves working with cooperatives and women-led groups.

We are seeking a highly skilled and experienced Food Scientist to support our nutrition team in developing an improved nutrient dense flour containing vitamins and minerals of proven standards. The consultant will play a key role in formulating and refining the flour recipe, optimizing processing techniques and conducting quality assessment to ensure the final products meets nutritional standards and consumers preferences with the aim of combating malnutrition among children.

#### Objectives and Expected Outcomes

1. Conduct a comprehensive review of existing research and literature on nutrient dense flours, vitamins, minerals and food processing techniques.
2. Collaborate with the project team to develop the formulation for nutrient dense flour based on set scientific criteria and ratio mixes while considering critical factors such as ingredients selection, nutritional composition, stability and sustainability.
3. Develop a nutrients dense flour processing manual for use at the production unit and train the production team in efficient production of nutrient dense flour.
4. Optimizing processing parameters such as millings, blending and fortification, to enhance the nutritional value, contents and sensory characteristics of the flour.
5. Analyse experimental data, interpret results and make recommendations for further refinement and improvements of the flour formulation.
6. Prepare technical reports, scientific publications and presentation summarizing research findings and outcomes.
7. Provide technical guidance and support to the project team throughout the development and implementation phases of the modified nutrient dense flour.
8. Stay informed about the emerging trends, innovation and best practices in food science, nutrition and technology.
9. To support the certification process of the nutrient dense flour with the national ministry of health and National Bureau of Standards (NBS) South Sudan while ensuring the institutionalization of the compliance procedures.

10. To advise on the quality of the packaging materials to be use at the production unit to ensure food safety and quality.
11. With the Program Coordinator and Nutrition Project Manager, kick off the certification process of the local improved nutrient-dense flour by the South Sudan National Bureau of Standards, with the objective of replacing the imported processed Corn Soy Blend as Supplementary Feeding for children and PLW suffering from MAMs and SAMs.

#### Dates and Conditions of the Consultancy

**Dates :** The estimated duration of the consultancy is 2 to 3 weeks (subject to further discussion with the consultant), which can be spanned over a three-month period from : July 2024 to September 2024. A detailed chronogram will be defined in consultation between the consultant and the FCL teams at HQ/field level.

**Location of the consultancy :** Upon issuance of visa by relevant authorities, the mission is to continue on South Sudan territory. FCL will put at the disposal of the consultant a workstation in its offices in Torit and Palotaka.

**Communication and follow-up mechanisms between the consultant and FCL :** The mission will be monitored by the FCL HQ staff based in Luxembourg. The technical follow-up will be ensured by the FCL Field Team.

#### Offers

Bids must be in English and include the following elements: About the consultant • Curriculum vitae • References • Cover letter • Photocopy of identification

**About the technical and financial proposal:**

- A technical proposal for conducting this consultancy including a timeline
- A financial proposal including details of consultancy fees and operational costs of the mission (international travel to South Sudan and communication...). Please note that FCL will provide the necessary means to ensure travels in South Sudan (vehicle with driver). FCL will also provide a guest house (collective) in Torit, South Sudan. The consultant shall ensure that a financial proposal is made in accordance with its applicable tax regime. If required by the law of the applicable tax jurisdiction, tax withholding may apply. The consultant shall maintain at its own expense all necessary insurance (including repatriation and liability coverage) and provide FCL with the corresponding insurance certificate. FCL is committed to the protection of children and the protection of beneficiaries against sexual abuse and exploitation. The selected consultant will be expected to endorse and abide by these ethical policies and the Code of Conduct: Integrity, Prevention of Abuse and Safeguarding. The consultant commits himself to the strict respect of FCL's security rules on the field.

**Submission of offers:** Interested applicants are requested to submit their CVs (maximum 3 pages), technical and financial proposal, academic documents, nationality Identity card and cover letter to [recruitment@caritasluxssd.lu](mailto:recruitment@caritasluxssd.lu) latest 28th June 2024.

#### Candidate profile and experience required

- A Ph.D. or Masters Degree in Food Science, Food Technology, Nutrition or a related Field.
- Proven expertise in formulating and developing Food products, particularly flours and Fortified Foods.
- Extensive knowledge of Vitamins, Minerals and other essentials nutrients as well as their roles in human nutrition.
- Strong analytical and problem-solving skills with the ability to interpret complex food and nutrition data as well as drawing meaningful conclusions for standardization of practice.
- Experience conducting Laboratory experiments and pilot scale trials, including familiarity with food processing equipment and techniques.
- Excellent communication skills with the ability to effectively collaborate with multidisciplinary teams and communicate technical concepts to non-technical stakeholders.
- Demonstrate ability to work independently, manage multiple tasks simultaneously and meet expectations against expected deliverables and deadlines.

#### Languages

**English :** Excellent English writing and verbal communication

#### IT competencies

Word

Excel

Other: Good Knowlegde of Office software package

