Development of Research Tools for Assessing the Development Outcomes of Private-Public-Partnerships in Agriculture and Environment

Organizational Unit: United Nations University Institute for Natural Resources in Africa (UNU-INRA)
Reference Number: 2015/UNU/INRA/CTC/(PPP)/01
Applications to:

By Hand Delivery:
The Finance and Administrative Officer, UNU-INRA, 2nd Floor. International House, University of Ghana Campus, Legon-Accra

By Email: recruit-inra@unu.edu

Closing Date: 30th May, 2015

United Nations University Objectives:
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The United Nations Institute for Natural Resources in Africa (UNU-INRA):
UNU-INRA is one of the fifteen Research and Training Institutes and Programmes established by UNU worldwide. The mission of UNU-INRA is to strengthen the capacity of African universities and research institutions to conduct research and produce well-trained, well-equipped and motivated individuals, capable of developing, adapting and disseminating technologies that advance food security and promote conservation and efficient use of the continent's natural resources for sustainable development. For more information please visit www.inra.unu.edu

Background:
The United Nations University Institute for Natural Resources in Africa (UNU-INRA) is implementing a one (1) year research project that aims at reviewing and assessing the state of PPPs in agriculture in a representative number of Sub-Saharan African (SSA) countries so as to guide further research, policy development and targeting of private and public funds for partnership development.

The past decade has been Africa’s unprecedented period of economic growth. At the same time, the flow of private capital into farmland and agriculture has grown tremendously. However, the current pace and pattern of growth has not yet delivered the jobs and the level of poverty reduction that the continent requires to outpace demographic growth.
In Sub-Saharan Africa, the growing private sector investment is in part channeled through an increasing number of Public Private Partnerships (PPPs). The main goals of PPPs are to reduce investment risk, ensure efficient delivery of projects, and create added value through synergies between public authorities and private sector companies, in particular through the integration and cross transfer of public and private sector skills, knowledge and expertise. Although there is a growing interest in PPPs projects that benefit smallholder farmers, there are few studies that have empirically established whether PPPs in SSA agricultural sector can effectively fulfill their intended goals.

In this regard, the research project seeks to answer the following questions:

- What are the different PPP models available in the agricultural sector and what are the contractual frameworks as well as the financial models under which these PPPs take place in SSA?
- What are the impacts of existing PPP models for agriculture on Inclusive Sustainable Growth and Food Security in SSA?
- What are the channels through which differences in the socio-political and economic contexts and the level of fragility of SSA countries can influence PPP models and their impacts on Inclusive Sustainable Growth and Food Security?

Six SSA countries were selected for the project implementation: Cameroon, Burundi, Ghana, Mozambique, Senegal and South Africa. With these countries, the research project covers a significant number of countries in SSA with diversified levels of socio-economic fragility that will allow us to draw data and knowledge from the wide range of existing PPPs instances and stakeholders across the SSA macro-region. To ensure the project findings in these countries are comparable and can be extrapolated to other SSA countries, it has become necessary to develop unique research materials for assessing the development outcomes of PPPs in agriculture and environment in any SSA country.

**Main Responsibilities:**

The main task of this consultancy is to assist in the development of research tools for studying the development outcomes of Private-Public Partnerships in agriculture and environment for Sub Saharan Africa (SSA). More specifically, the research consultancy is to:

- Undertake a stakeholder analysis to facilitate the engagement with relevant stakeholders and the establishment of relationships with them for studying PPPs in Agriculture in SSA;
- Based on the literature reviews and expert knowledge, develop a data collection tool to assess the recent history of PPP growth in SSA agricultural sector and outline the reasons behind this growth;
- Based on desk reviews and expert consultations, develop a set of environmental, social and economic indicators to capture the contribution of PPP initiatives to: (i) environmental sustainability; (ii) equitable access to land, (iii) enhanced local food security; (iv) inclusive
youth and gender employment creation; (v) social cohesion and conflict resolution; (vi) innovation and technological advancement;

- Analyse the socio-political and economic contexts and the level of fragility of SSA countries in order to identify macroeconomic indicators that influence PPP models in agriculture and their impacts on Inclusive Sustainable Growth and Food Security;
- Perform any other duties as may be assigned by the Project Coordinator.

Description of Deliverables:

The scope of this consultancy will include but not necessarily limited to:

- Deliver a draft sex-disaggregated data collection toolbox (questionnaires, focus group and structural interview frameworks, key indicators of socio-political and economic contexts and level of fragility of SSA countries, key indicators of Inclusive Sustainable Growth and Food Security for PPPs initiatives), for assessing the development outcomes of PPPs in agriculture and environment;
- Participate in an inception workshop with international experts on PPPs in the agricultural sector to review the draft data collection toolbox;
- Review the draft data collection toolbox based on comments received from the inception workshop.

Candidate Profile:

Academic Background

- Advanced university degree (Master's or equivalent) in Economics, Governance, Social Sciences, Environmental Sciences, and any relevant field of study. PhD is preferred.

Professional Background

- Minimum of three years relevant experience in Agricultural development, Private sector development, Public-Private Partnership development, Environmental and social impact assessments;
- Practical experience in environmental sustainability, food security issues, youth and gender employment creation, and private-public partnership is an asset.

Languages

- Excellent command of one of the two official languages of UNU-INRA (English or French) and excellent report writing and communication skills.

Key Competencies:

- Self-management to effectively direct one's own activities toward the achievement of objectives/results;
- Good research skills, ability to communicate effectively with private and public stakeholders as well as the capacity to prioritize tasks, often on tight deadlines.

Contract Terms:
Remuneration
Remuneration will commensurate with qualification and experience of the successful candidate.

Duration of contract
At his/her convenience, the successful candidate could work remotely from his home country under the Consultant Contract (CTC) for a fixed period of three (3) months for the above-mentioned project (two (2) months to deliver the draft data collection toolbox and one (1) month to revise the draft data collection toolbox by integrating the comments from the International Experts Group).

Starting date
1st June, 2015 or as soon as possible.

Application Procedure:
Interested applicants should submit their applications, preferably by e-mail and must include the following:

- A cover letter setting out how the qualifications and experience match the requirements of the position;
- A curriculum vitae;
- Full contact information of two referees.

Due to the large number of expected applications, only short-listed candidates will be contacted. Unsuccessful applications can neither be acknowledged nor returned.

Notice:
The successful candidate will not hold international civil servant status nor be a “staff member” as defined in the United Nations Staff Rules and Regulations. **UNU does not sponsor a working visa for this position.**

Applications from suitably qualified women candidates from developing countries are particularly encouraged.