Country Consultancy

Improving the Development Outcomes of Public-Private Partnerships in Agriculture and the Environment

Organizational Unit: United Nations University Institute for Natural Resources in Africa (UNU-INRA)
Reference Number: 2015/UNU/INRA/CTC/(PPP)/02
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 June, 2015

United Nations University Objectives:
The United Nations University (UNU) is an international community of scholars engaged in research, postgraduate training and dissemination of knowledge in furtherance of the purposes and principles of the United Nations, its member states and peoples. It serves as a think-tank for the United Nations System, contributes to capacity building particularly in developing countries, and serves as a platform for new and creative ideas and dialogue. For more information please visit: www.unu.edu.

The 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), with funding from the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) is implementing a one (1) year research project aimed 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 decade of economic growth. At the same time, the flow of private capital into farmland and agriculture has grown dramatically. 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 on PPPs for 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 agriculture and the environment, 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 and the environment on Inclusive Sustainable Growth and Food Security (ISG&FS) 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 ISG&FS?

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. Currently, some works are being undertaken to develop research tools for data collection and analysis.

Main Responsibilities:

The main task of this consultancy is to undertake data collection and rigorous analysis to determine the landscape and the impacts of PPPs in the agricultural sector and the environment, using research tools developed for the project.

More specifically, the consultant is to:

- Identify and engage with key stakeholders involved in PPPs for agriculture and the environment in one of the selected SSA countries to discuss the project, collect appropriate data, and ensure their full participation in each phase of the research project;
- Analyse data to generate a well understanding of: (i) the landscape of PPPs that have emerged as well as their features; (ii) risks and opportunities associated to the development of PPP in agriculture and the environment; (iii) successes and failures of PPP projects thereby identifying drivers and success factors; (iv) private-public financing models that have emerged for PPPs in agriculture and the environment in the country;
• Compare and assess existing PPPs on the basis of their contribution 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 socio-political and economic contexts of the country as well as its level of fragility and analyse how these factors influence or may influence structure, feasibility, performance and impacts of different PPPs models;

• Participate in a national dissemination workshop to discuss and validate the findings of the study in order to guide policies for PPPs and open dialogue for further research.

Description of Deliverables:

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

• Deliver a database on PPPs for agriculture and the environment;

• Deliver a comprehensive report on the development outcomes of PPPs in agriculture and the environment for the country of allocation;

• Participate in the organization of a national dissemination workshop for the project.

Candidate Profile:

Academic Background

• Advanced university degree (Master’s or equivalent) in Economics, Agricultural Economics Development Sciences, 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 issue, youth and gender employment creation and private-public partnership is an asset.

• Currently living in one of the selected SSA countries (Cameroon, Burundi, Ghana, Mozambique, Senegal and South Africa) and affiliated to a university or a research institution within the country.

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 organizational skills, ability to work effectively on the basis of general instructions with the capacity to prioritize tasks, often according to tight deadlines.

**Contract Terms:**

**Remuneration**
Remuneration will commensurate with qualification and experience of the successful candidate.

**Duration of contract**
The successful candidate shall be based in his/her home country under Consultant Contract (CTC) for a fixed period of five (5) months for the above-mentioned project.

**Starting date**
1st August, 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.