



Inclusive Value Chain Consultant

Location :	Province of Compostella Valley, Surigao Del Sur and Agusan Del Sur - Philippines
Application Deadline :	22 October, 2018
Type of Contract :	Consultancy
Post Level :	Local
Languages Required :	English, Visaya
Starting Date :	29 October, 2018
Duration of Initial Contract :	29 October – 3 December 2018

Background

Fundacion CODESPA, in consortium with Action Against Hunger submitted a Concept Note to AECID in July 2018 and was approved by AECID for funding in September 2018. The principal objective of the concept “is to reduce socioeconomic and environmental vulnerabilities of 3.650 families, continuously affected by the negative effects of climate change and natural disasters”. Implementation strategy will focus on promoting climate and disaster resilience transformation in the provinces of Agusan del Sur, Surigao del Sur and Compostela Valley where consortium partners has been implementing DRR, Value chain and governance programs. Targeted areas were selected in coordination with the provincial governments in the respective areas and according to a set of pre-agreed vulnerability criteria. Principal objective of the project is expected to be achieved by improving the local government unit’s capacity, awareness and knowledge to implement actions that would reduce the risk of their communities while enhancing their capacities to adapt to climate change. It will further foster alliances among public and private institutions and synergies and complementarities with the existing/on-going projects/programs of government line agencies, Local Government Units to contribute to the objectives.

To achieve principal objective, the project concept will address three interrelated components in line with the AECID strategies, Philippine government’s policies/plans and the sustainable development goals: **1) Strengthen risk governance and integration of disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation into development planning towards an inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable communities.** This component will facilitate i) a gender-responsive and disability-inclusive bottom-up DRRM assessment and planning process at different levels of the local government starting with a Participatory Vulnerability Capacity Assessment for the communities to identify and plan their resilience needs and key interventions towards adaption, and supporting the integration DRRM plans priorities in the municipal and provincial DRRM and development plans; ii) the proposal would facilitate local governments’ access, understanding, interpretation and application to reliable climate forecast information (Climate Outlook Fora) for the development of gender-responsive and disability-inclusive Local Climate Change Adaptation (LCCAP) planning and contingency plans which includes inclusive early warning system and evacuation processes and protocols, ensuring the needs of women, men, children and persons with disabilities are integrated; and iii) the enhancement of identified evacuation centers/warehouses providing as well resilient construction trainings to promote better disability access, gender-sensitive and safer shelter construction in communities; **2) Developed more efficient and resilient livelihoods to ensure food security while fostering a more sustainable production system and equal access by men and women to assets, services, technologies, knowledge and decision-making, especially considering that agriculture has already experienced an important impact due to climate change and it is expected to further impact on food production.** It will combine local production with alternative activities to increase their income and improve their capacity to recover from

disasters, considering strategies to promote access to rural financial services. With a people-centred natural resource management and governance, the proposal would strengthen selected community-based forest management households through more efficient use of the available natural resources, climate change adaptation measures and good agricultural practices, using the generated climate data and agreed Early Warning System in their planning and decision-making processes, and developing public awareness programs to inform local stakeholders about the connection between ecosystems, their livelihoods, and climate change; **3) Promoted economic opportunities for low-income men and women through the development of inclusive business strategies and public-private alliances to strengthen key AFF value chains of the main commodities identified by each province in their Provincial Commodity Investment Plan** at i) farmer/fisherfolk production level by diversifying their production, accessing to low cost technologies/services to enhance their production, and/or addressing possible gender constraints that hamper women's full participation in economic decisions; ii) organizational level by strengthening local agro-association organizations to develop business plans, improve their capacities to adapt their members' production to market demands, as well as their linkages with existing (local or foreign) value chains, etc. and; iii) anchor company level through their inclusion in their chain, possible technical assistance, etc.

Duties and Responsibilities

As part of the grant agreement process, and to formulate the full proposal, the consortium partners planned to conduct a more in-depth assessment and analysis of the vulnerabilities, capacities of LGUs and coping strategies of local community in terms of natural disasters and climate change. The main purpose of the identification phase is to collect and analyze relevant data from Government agencies, LGUs, stakeholders and communities, including women and children, for the development of further food security and livelihood strategies to be implemented during the next 3-years of intervention.

As such, the consultants to be engaged in the identification phase aims to:

- Confirm the alignment of the proposed strategy with government, regional and local government units' plans and programs;
- Market mapping of key commodities determining local demand for key products/commodities, including potential for value added and/or value creation initiatives;
- Identify critical gaps and bottlenecks for men and women producers to increase their productivity and switch to more lucrative and resilient livelihoods;
- Better understand the local context and specific vulnerabilities, risk, hazards and causes of food insecurity in the targeted areas;
- Value Chain rating - including Producers, Buyers, Providers, Financial institutions and possible anchor companies, based on CODESPA Toolkit, following its methodology and adding two more relevant criteria for the project: value addition/creation and Climate Change Adaptation;
- Propose strategies for the enhancement of the analyzed commodities to enhance their corresponding value chains and identified bottlenecks;
- Collect data and prepare a value chain database;
- Collect and analyze information to establish baselines and finalize the logical framework
- Contribute to develop the full proposals, with special focus on strategies, recommendations and success cases for the 4-year project implementation.

Strategy and actions to be design based on the information gathered would aim to:

- Address food security challenges



- Increase economic benefits and income for local producers
- Reduce their vulnerability to natural disasters and climate change
- Guarantee a collaboration between all the actors of the value chain (producers, cooperatives and market consolidators, Micro Finance Institution, providers and buyers, LGU).
- Ensure inclusive business scheme between technology providers and producers

The consortium is looking for a consultant or (a team of consultants) to conduct assessments in support of the identification and formulation of full proposal. Assessments will have to be conducted at field level, both at national level and in the provinces, including in the pre-identified Municipalities and selected Barangays and communities, including the collection, review and analysis of secondary data. Planned assessments will be coordinated and supervised by the designated staff from the consortium in the Philippines and guided by technical experts from Spain Head Quarters as needed.

Expected deliverables

- **Identification of Value chains (VC) to be supported by the consortium**
- Secondary analysis of strategic sectors, under the following criteria:
 - i) Potential of growth – including value addition and value creation;
 - ii) Climate change adaptation;
 - iii) Potential linkages with a high number of vulnerable producers;
 - iv) Local and international commercialization potential;
 - v) Existence of organized structures of organized producers (cooperatives, social enterprises);
 - vi) Potential willing to finance the value chain by the microfinancial sector;
 - vii) Potential engagement of private companies, both in the commercialization phase and the technology provision phase.
- Workshop plan, guidelines and questionnaires, including objectives, contents, methodology and tools, taking as basis CIAT/LINK methodology and CODESPA Value Chain Toolkit.
- Interviews with producers (women and men) determining their average land and work capital, willing to access to credit, economic and environmental vulnerability.
- Value Chain rating, based on primary analysis of the following steps of each value chain: 1) Anchor companies, 2) Microfinancial institutions willing to finance the VC, 3) Producer's organizations, 4) Productive units (producers, families, groups)
- Submission of draft assessment report, including the analysis and recommendations on strategies to enhance the analyzed key commodities and address the identified bottlenecks during the 4-year project implementation. All annexes and raw data (primary and secondary) should be attached as annex, including meeting notes, FGD/KII/Workshop documents and analysis, baseline data matrix, list of participants, LGU plans/policy, contact details etc).
- Analysis of Alternatives and Sustainability.
- Finalization and submission of the final assessment with ranking and analysis of the studied value chains and their main constraints.

Identification of gender gaps within the value chains

- Workshop plan and guidelines, including objectives, contents, methodology and tools.
- Analysis on gender gaps including sexual division of labor, access to resources, gender needs and strategic interests, and participation within the identified value chains.
- Local policies/strategies/programs analysis.
- Analysis on prospective impact of the intervention on the complex balance of social and economic roles of women and men.
- Gender-Analysis and Recommendations on the FINAL Logical Framework to develop more efficient and resilient livelihoods to ensure food security, with special



attention on strategies that could address identified gender constraints that limit women's full participation in economic decisions and significant involvement in more lucrative and resilient livelihoods.

- Construction of indicators to measure changes in status and equity position between men and women.
- Beneficiary Group determination and value chain database (sex-disaggregated).

Methodology

The identification phase assessment is expected to identify the communities for the project, confirm and elaborate the implementation strategies and approaches. The consultant will use the strategies and implementation methodologies outlined in the Concept Note as well as the Logical Framework as the basis to re-validate the appropriateness and relevance of the project and provided recommendations to carry forward to the full proposal. Information to be collected, both qualitative and quantitative, and their analysis should contribute to establish the baseline. In addition, the consultants are expected to identify possible stakeholders, partners and private sectors to be engaged in the actual implementation and their capacities and contributions (technical, financial, modalities of implementation, etc.). Special attention should be given to the approach to develop to steadily hand-over the project to the LGUs, communities and stakeholders and the sustainability. Importantly, all dataset/ information collected from the field, its analysis and findings (example: censuses, investment plans of LGUs, market analysis, FGD/KII/Meeting/Workshop outcomes, among others) should be submitted as justification for confirming the project designs.

The methodology of the assessment:

- i. **CODESPA's Toolkit for Value Chain** Identification shall be applied adding two more relevant criteria for the project: value addition/creation and Climate Change Adaption. In order to foster a more participatory identification process, the selected consultant is encouraged to follow the **LINK methodology**.
- ii. **Data review:** Review of project concept note, donor guidelines and relevant secondary data
- iii. **Meeting/Workshops/KII/FGDs with public and private key stakeholders:** Meetings with relevant government line agencies public technical departments and stakeholders to collect primary and secondary data and in orders to identify the priorities of development, possible partnership/coordination modalities, among others. Capture lessons learned from the current/on-going IB and livelihood interventions by the consortium and recommendations for follow-up, improvement and roll-out;
- i. **Meeting/Workshops/KII/FGD with Barangay officials, sectorial representations (including women groups/CSOs)** Meetings with barangay officials, sectorial representatives and CSOs, including Indigenous people representatives, to collect primary and secondary data and in orders to identify the risks, livelihood resiliency, level of food security, incentives and disincentives on production and food security, capacities/weakness, complementary actions and partnership/coordination modalities at the Barangays level, among others. Capture lessons learned from the current/on-going IB and livelihood interventions by the consortium and recommendations for follow-up, improvement and roll-out;

- ii. **Workshops/FGD with communities:** Workshops/FGDs with community leaders and men and women residents to collect primary data in order to identify access to resources, capacity for investment and available financing mechanisms; capacity to engage on new income generating activities, sexual division of work at household level; specific hazards/risks/vulnerabilities affecting their life and livelihoods; specific DRR/CC issues affecting the communities to be resilience, food secured, and to cope with natural disasters; management of natural resources, among others. Capture lessons learned from the current/on-going IB and livelihood interventions by the consortium and recommendations for follow-up, improvement and roll-out;
- iii. **Presentation of findings** to local government units at the provincial level (3 presentations)

*Note: above are some of the key methodologies and vulnerability criteria are not an exhaustive list. Possible revisions/inclusions of other methodologies and criteria will be discussed and agreed with the selected consultant(s).

Scope and additional information

The identification phase will imply the identification of areas of intervention/barangays and validating the proposed strategy/activities in a complex situation where different factors will have to be considered to avoid risks and misunderstanding among the stakeholder and final beneficiaries. As such the assessment should take into account of:

- Assessment should take place in all 3 provinces selected, including 12 Municipalities and 24 barangays.
- Conflicts: The assessment should consider and contribute strategize the implementation considering the local situation and security issue;
- Identification of common strategies and approach for targeted area should be considered and detailed for smooth implementation of the action since the local legislation at provincial and/or regional level may vary;
- The identification will have to outline a balanced approach and strategy for implementation whereas selection of vulnerable groups might not jeopardize achieving the project objectives and goal. With this perspective, it should especially outline appropriate ways to integrate/target vulnerable groups that are affected by the conflict and vulnerable groups that are not affected.
- In addition to the nepotism and corruption that represent real risks, and to the gender issues, the context of the study will therefore request caution and tact in the assessment of the vulnerabilities, needs and areas to be targeted. As for instance, information on the history of the communities surveyed will be important to take into account while assessing the constraints and the opportunities of any intervention; the women's needs will be clearly identified directly from them; the past or potential conflicts between communities or within a community (ex. Land conflict) will be discussed with the representatives of the communities or stakeholders and the security and logistics constraints assessed. Finally, in order to identify the most appropriate communities to target and the actions to implement, the cross-checking of information from different sources at different level will be requested as a rule.
- The vulnerability of the communities may result from different factors, more or less combined, which could make the identification of the most vulnerable communities difficult. Several factors



will have then to be taken into account in parallel to the usual indicators (DRR/CCA, economic, food security, governance..) during the selection process.

Required Skills and Experience of the consultant

- Extensive experience working with rural smallholders, cooperatives and agricultural producers' associations in the Philippines. Experience in development projects in collaboration and/or lead by International Development NGOs will be an asset.
- Extensive field experience working on inclusive agricultural value chains and food security strategies in the Philippines, particularly related to market and financial aspects, strategic partnerships and bottlenecks clearance.
- Experience working closely with micro-finance institution in the Philippines; knowledge of rural finance value chain will be an asset.
- Significant knowledge and experience in working on women's rights and gender issues and/or livelihood projects in rural area.

Competencies of the consultant

- Deep financial, market and value chain analysis capability
- Critical thinking, to identify the strengths and weaknesses of alternative solutions, conclusions or approaches to problems.
- Experience and awareness on DRR and CCA strategies, national policies and plans in the Philippines.
- Experience in gender analysis.
- Team player, with ability to work in multi-cultural environment.
- Communication skills to work with LGU's and civil society groups.
- Maturity, cultural sensitivity, tactfulness, diplomacy, inter-personal skills and ability to work well under pressure in a demanding environment and tight deadlines.
- Computer Skills (knowledge of Microsoft Office and Outlook is a pre-requisite).
- Familiarity with the operating context for government organizations in the Philippines and Mindanao, especially in the provinces targeted for this assessment.

Application Submission and Evaluation Process

Interested individual consultants or team of consultants, are invited to submit a technical and financial proposal by the 22nd October to the following email-address. The financial proposal should include only the consultancy fee, including applicable government taxes, field allowances, and national flights.

(Note: field transportation, workshop/meeting expenses will be managed and covered by the consortium)



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