



TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE ENGAGEMENT OF A FULL TIME NATIONAL PROJECT LEAD CONSULTANT (FGN-IFAD CSAPR – SAPZ NIGERIA), ABUJA, NIGERIA

1. Introduction

The Special Agro-Industrial Processing Zones (SAPZ) program is a flagship initiative of the Federal Government of Nigeria (FGN) and International Financial Institutions (IFIs) such as IFAD to transform the agricultural sector and enhance food security, employment, and income generation in the country. The program aims to establish integrated agro-processing hubs that will attract private investment, increase productivity and value addition, and improve market access and competitiveness of the agricultural products. The program will also support the development of the enabling infrastructure, policies, and institutions to facilitate the operation and sustainability of the SAPZs.

The program covers six geo-political zones of Nigeria. Each zone will have one or more SAPZs, depending on the agro-ecological potential and the comparative advantage of the agricultural commodities. The program is expected to benefit about 10 million direct and indirect beneficiaries, including smallholder farmers, agro-processors, agribusinesses, off-takers, service providers, and consumers.

Climate-Smart Agribusiness Partnerships for Resilience (CSAPR) is an IFAD Adaptation for Smallholder Agriculture Programme (ASAP+) initiative funded by the Gates Foundation. It builds on and scales up existing SAPZ efforts to integrate Climate Information Systems (CIS) into private sector operations as a foundation for climate-resilient food systems transformation. The initiative aims to improve the productivity and profitability of small-scale farming systems in Nigeria by expanding the use of CIS in private sector agricultural products and services through sustainable Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs). It also complements existing investments by IFAD, the Gates Foundation and other development partners.

The program is anchored in the SAPZ program and implemented by the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security in collaboration with the state governments, the private sector, and other development partners.

2. Objective

The objective of this consultancy is to provide coordination and monitoring of CSAPR implementation at the SAPZ National Program Coordination Office (NPCO). The consultant will also ensure a strong coordination across stakeholders and partner activities, including effective engagement between public and private entities.

3. Main Responsibilities

The CSAPR National Project Lead consultant will be responsible for the day-to-day coordination and monitoring of CSAPR implementation under the SAPZ National Programme Management Unit (NPMU) ensuring that all CSAPR activities are planned, implemented, and reported in line with the approved Annual Work Plan and Budget (AWPB), the CSAPR results framework, and relevant IFAD and grant requirements/guidelines. The position will ensure strong coordination across stakeholders and partner activities, including effective engagement between public and private entities, and will provide hands-on operational and technical follow-up to ensure timely delivery and quality of outputs.

4. Specific Duties

The CSAPR National Project Lead Consultant will:

Programme coordination and implementation

- Develop AWPB for CSAPR specific activities in line with the project objectives and timelines.
- Actively coordinate and monitor implementation of CSAPR components across public, private, and intermediary partners to ensure achievement of project targets and deliverables, as well as alignment with approved AWPB and implementation schedules.
- Regularly engage regional/state/local implementing teams and partner agencies, providing direct operational follow-up and facilitating necessary technical guidance to ensure smooth progress and quality of outputs.
- Coordinate and support implementation planning processes, including ensuring CSAPR activities are integrated into the SAPZ work planning and reporting cycle.
- Liaise closely with the CSAPR Officer based in Nairobi for support on Gates Foundation operational alignments and connection to the parallel investment in Kenya.

Stakeholder engagement and PPP coordination

- Coordinate and lead stakeholder and partner engagements, including multi-stakeholder workshops and technical sessions involving public and private entities.

- Support the development and functioning of partnerships relevant to CSAPR implementation, including coordination between private sector actors (e.g., agribusinesses, financial institutions) and public climate information service providers where applicable.
- Promoting exchange of best practices and knowledge from CSAPR between Kenya and Nigeria operations, particularly those leveraging private capital for climate adaptation solutions.

Monitoring, evaluation and learning

- Systematically collect, verify, and analyse data on CSAPR indicators as outlined in the results framework, ensuring data quality, consistency and traceability.
- Conduct field visits to CSAPR implementation locations and partner organisations to collect primary data, validate reported information, and gather qualitative feedback from beneficiaries.
- Support training of local data collectors for Component 2 activities and conduct regular spot checks to validate reporting accuracy and completeness.

Reporting, knowledge and supervision

- Prepare comprehensive annual progress reports (in relevant templates, such as Gates Foundation annual reporting template) and contribute to periodic reporting as required by the NPMU, IFAD and funders.
- Participate in supervision missions of the CSAPR grant and provide inputs to mission preparation, documentation and follow-up action tracking.
- Document lessons learned and support the development of studies, case studies and communication pieces to highlight programme achievements, results, challenges and lessons learned.
- Perform any other tasks as may be assigned by the SAPZ National Programme Coordinator and/or the NPMU leadership relevant to CSAPR implementation.

5. Qualification and Work Experience

- At least a master's degree in relevant area such as Agriculture, Agricultural Economics, Environment/Climate Change, Development Studies, Project Management, Statistics/Economics, or other relevant discipline.
- A higher qualification (PhD) in relevant discipline would be an advantage.
- Relevant experience of at least 5 years working as programme consultant or staff with international finance institutions and/or development organisations such as IFAD, World Bank, African Development Bank, Gates Foundation, United Nations or their funded programs is required.
- At least 7 years of progressively responsible experience in coordination and implementation of donor-funded programmes/projects, preferably in agriculture, climate adaptation and private sector development.

- At least 3 years of demonstrated experience in multi-stakeholder policy dialogue and programme coordination, including collaboration between public institutions and private sector actors to drive change, promote innovation, and facilitate mutually beneficial public-private partnership agreements.
- Strong experience/understanding on how to integrate Climate Information Systems (CIS) into private sector operations as a foundation for climate-resilient food systems transformation.
- Strong experience with AWPB-based implementation management, results frameworks, data verification and preparation of progress reports.
- Strong facilitation stakeholder management skills.
- Computer literacy and strong working knowledge of standard office software (MS Word, Excel, PowerPoint).

6. Reporting and Location

The CSAPR National Project Lead Consultant will be based in the SAPZ NPMU and will report to the National Programme Coordinator (NPC). The role will also work in close coordination with the CSAPR regional programme consultant based in Nairobi and IFAD Nigeria country office, as required. Additionally, will work in close coordination with key staff of SAPZ both at NPMU and state levels.

7. Duration

The duration of the consultancy is 12 months, renewable subject to satisfactory performance appraisal by SAPZ one month before the end of contract and no objection of IFAD Country Office and subject to availability of funding.

8. Deliverables

The consultant will contribute to the achievement of key results including:

- Four (4) formalized and functional CIS PPP agreements established (eg. MoUs, MoAs, contracts, etc.)
- Two (2) existing/new institutional frameworks or guidelines developed or enhanced and utilized on the implementation of CIS and PPPs in the agricultural sector.
- Four (5) private partners that enhanced their products/services with CIS
- Five (5) knowledge products developed with robust evidence on CIS impact and investment returns.
- 3000 people are provided with CIS-informed products and services.

To this end, the consultant is expected to deliver programme key outputs including:

1. Technical output: the consultant will leverage his/her expertise on: (i) enhancing enabling environment and co-designing of PPP for CIS integration; (ii) deploying innovative climate-informed agricultural products and services; (iii)

promoting the scale-up of CIS partnerships to design, support the implementation and validation of the following:

- Consulting services to conduct climate risk and resilience analyses and mappings of agribusiness and Financial Institutions (FIs) and to assess public CIS product suitability for private sector use
 - Consulting services to co-design PPPs and negotiate agreements between FIs and agribusiness
 - Consulting services to conduct policy analyses and develop policy recommendations that promote public-private collaboration on climate information
 - Consulting services on digital technologies and tools, procurement of mobile platforms and applications, and generation of data analytics to update and scale existing APIs or develop new APIs
 - Consulting services to develop climate-informed financial products/services for agribusiness
 - Consulting services to conduct impact and financial analyses and develop knowledge products
2. Operational output: (i) a monthly progress report on the CSAPR implementation, including the achievements, challenges, and recommendations; (ii) a quarterly program performance report, including the indicators, targets, and results of the CSAPR activities; (iii) annual progress reports (in relevant templates, such as Gates Foundation annual reporting template and IFAD templates).

9. PROCUREMENT METHOD

The Procurement method for the consultancy is Individual Consultants Selection method (ICS).

10. CLIENT'S INPUTS

- i. The client shall make available project as well as other relevant documents as may be required by the consultant.
- ii. The client shall provide a working desk and other essential office equipment for the consultant at the SAPZ NPCO in Abuja.