

## **TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR END TERM EVALUATION OF ACORD PAN AFRICA PROGRAMME**

### **1. INTRODUCTION**

The Agency for Cooperation and Research in Development (ACORD) is a Pan African organization working for social justice and development in Africa. For more than thirty-five years ACORD has been working with partners, grassroots organizations and communities across Africa and is currently present on the ground in 18 countries<sup>1</sup>. ACORD's programming activities are implemented at country, regional and pan African level and mirror four thematic areas: livelihoods, particularly food sovereignty, conflict and peace building, gender and HIV/AIDS.

ACORD response to the challenges of Africa is informed by a belief that people themselves are the primary agents of change and actors of their own development. People's ability to take action and reclaim ownership of the development process and claim their right is what will transform Africa. This belief underpins ACORD's methodology that combines practical work at grass-roots level and capacity building, research and advocacy at national and continental levels. ACORD works towards the empowerment of the most affected communities themselves to understand, challenge and change conditions causing social injustice and denial of rights that are reinforced by the dynamic of globalisation.

ACORD has been implementing a Pan Africa Programme since 2006 with the first phase from 2006 – 2008 and the second phase from 2009 – 2011, aimed at consolidating a social movement for Food Sovereignty in Africa. The goal of the PAP is to work in alliance with others to influence policies and create a conducive environment for achieving food sovereignty in Africa. The overall objective is to strengthen the livelihood of marginalized communities and their capacity to advocate for their rights and claim their food sovereignty. In order to achieve this, the programme focuses on three specific objectives;

1. Support African citizens and their governments to demand and negotiate trade regimes that enable food sovereignty for Africa.
2. Influence the formulation and implementation of regional and continental agriculture and pastoralist policy frameworks that support food sovereignty.
3. Increase the capacities of ACORD and its CSO partners to engage in related continental debates and processes.

With the second phase of the PAP coming to an end, ACORD is seeking to conduct an external end term evaluation to assess the performance, results, achievements and lessons learnt, from the 3 year 2009 – 2011 programme, and inform the development of the next strategic phase. We are thus looking for an expert consultant to submit a proposal and interpretation of the Terms of Reference for undertaking the assignment.

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<sup>1</sup> ACORD is present across the continent, collaborating with a vast network of community based organisations, in Southern Africa: Angola and Mozambique; Eastern and Horn of Africa: Ethiopia, North Sudan, South Sudan, Uganda, Tanzania and Kenya; Central Africa: DRC, Rwanda, Burundi, Central African Republic (CAR); and Western Africa: Mali, Mauritania, Burkina Faso and Guinea (Sahel I) and Chad and Cameroon (Sahel II).

## 2. BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT OF EVALUATION

In its third year of implementation, ACORD Pan Africa Programme, through the three objectives outlined above has made progress towards realizing seven outcomes outlined below;

**Outcome 1:** Momentum for the food sovereignty Stop EPAs campaign maintained in 2009 through at least 300 CSOs and farmers movements' facilitated engagement on the agreed framework and plan of action of the Africa Trade Network, and CAP reform debate influenced to incorporate the views of African small farmers

**Outcome 2:** A sustained movement of farmers and CSOs in the four African regions, uphold, CAADP target and government commitment of 10% national budget investment in agriculture and evolve a case for "a continental law on agriculture"

**Outcome 3:** Voice of organised pastoralist communities (at least 100 associations) in the Sahel, East Africa and Horn of Africa is heard in the finalization of the Pastoralist Policy Framework (PPF).

**Outcome 4:** A strategic law suit on land rights and violence against women is launched by a coalition of feminist women's rights institutions

**Outcome 5:** At least 10 national and regional PLHAs networks partners spearhead an HIV and AIDS vulnerability and susceptibility policy engagement agenda in limited food self sufficient contexts.

**Outcome 6:** Case for Community Social Contracts as condition to sustainable food sovereignty built with ICGLR and AU peace and security departments

**Outcome 7:** ACORD and its partners are engaging on continental critical processes and institutionalise relationships with the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and African Union (AU) and its main relevant chapters

The purpose of the end-term evaluation is to assess the programme performance and results, the effects of the programme on the target groups and on policies; and analyze the individual objective coherence and contribution towards the programme overall goal as well as ACORD strategic objectives. Recommendations emerging from the end-term evaluation will inform and guide the design of the next phase of the programme and also generate evidence for organizational learning and accountability.

## 3. MAIN OBJECTIVES AND KEY QUESTIONS OF THE EVALUATION

The main objectives of the end-term evaluation are to:

1. Assess the extent to which the Programme has been relevant and appropriate
2. Assess the Programme performance and extent to which the objectives and outcomes have been met
3. Establish the extent to which gender concerns are being addressed by the programme and the effects of the programme on men and women in implementing countries;
4. Assess the effectiveness of the organisational set-up and systems in the delivery of the programme and to what extent these contribute to, or inhibit the delivery of, the programme outcomes
5. Identify emerging good examples, practices or models in the programme that can be documented and showcased for learning, scale up and replication.
6. Assess the effectiveness of the programme advocacy strategy to influence policy and practice changes for social justice at national, regional and pan African levels and the extent to which the programme is influencing other key actors in the thematic (livelihoods, gender, HIV&AIDS and conflict and peace building) response.

7. To identify strengths and weakness and other constraints that may have influenced performance
8. Make clear recommendations for the next phase of the programme

Some of the key questions to be addressed in order to achieve the above objectives, include, but not limited to;

- What outcomes (intended and unintended) have been achieved?
- Have outcomes been achieved in a cost-effective and cost-efficient way?
- Have policy and practice changes occurred to which outcomes have contributed?
- Have contributions been made to women's empowerment and furthering gender equality?
- What lessons can be learned about the effectiveness of the intervention strategies used in order to achieve outcomes and policy and practice changes?
- To what extent have the target beneficiaries been involved in the programme implementation?
- How have the current strategic partnerships supported delivery of programme objectives?
- To what extent have the current ACORD systems supported realization of programme outcomes?
- Which exit strategies have been put in place to ensure programme sustainability?
- How have the programme objectives contributed to ACORD strategic objectives?

#### **4. THE SCOPE OF THE END TERM EVALUATION**

The End Term Evaluation will be carried out extensively through a qualitative and quantitative analysis of the PAP 2009 – 2011 and will examine as applicable the following broad criteria; relevance and coherence, effectiveness, efficiency, impact, sustainability and risk management within the programme on all cross cutting issues and standards.

#### **5. METHODOLOGY**

The evaluation will be participatory using both qualitative and quantitative techniques and data. The evaluation process will involve but not be limited to; collection of quantitative data through desk reviews of documentation, and qualitative data through in-depth interviews and discussions with different stakeholders at the secretariat and in selected Area Programmes, as well as field visits to some project sites coupled with focus group discussions and interviews with beneficiaries. Currently there are ongoing evaluations of Area Programme Strategic Plans in some countries and the findings will fit into this evaluation process and hence the need to link all these processes. All these will take into considerations relevant indicators across the programme. Necessary documentation will be availed for review. After data collection, a debriefing meeting will be held with ACORD management at the Secretariat and in the Area Programmes that shall be involved in the field visits, to provide an opportunity to provide feedback and any additional information prior to the writing of the report.

#### **6. DELIVERABLES**

By the end of the exercise, the following outputs should be realized;

1. Final evaluation report (report outline to be shared)
2. Summary of field visit reports and secondary data

3. Summary of key findings, discussions, conclusion and recommendations for the next phase

## **7. DURATION/TIMELINE**

The task is expected to take a maximum of one month beginning 12<sup>th</sup> September and be completed not later than the 12<sup>th</sup> of October, inclusive of report writing. The draft report should be submitted to the Head of Policy and Advocacy not later than 7<sup>th</sup> October 2011. A final report should be submitted by 14<sup>th</sup> October 2011.

## **8. REQUIREMENTS**

- Academic qualifications (Masters or PhD) in economic/international development, social sciences, or other relevant development field of study
- Demonstrable experience minimum 8 years in conducting similar programme evaluations, with proven analytical skills
- Demonstrable experience in Advocacy and thorough understanding of gender justice issues
- Thorough understanding and knowledge of the International agricultural trade, agricultural policy analysis and food security & sovereignty
- Demonstrable working experience with CSOs, government and inter-governmental bodies and in movement building
- Proficiency in two of the three ACORD working languages (English, French, Portuguese) is highly desired
- Gender balance is highly desirable for consultant teams

## **9. EXPRESSION OF INTEREST**

All interested consultants/firms are requested to write an expression of interest including both a technical and financial proposal by:

1. Interpreting the TOR
2. Explaining in detail the methodology and tools to be used in carrying out the assignment
3. Providing a detailed professional budget in British Sterling Pounds (indicating daily professional rates)
4. Explaining their competences to meet the requirements of the assignment
5. Attaching CVs and brief technical biographical data of the core team-members
6. Providing the duration of the assignment and when ready to undertake the assignment.
7. Providing evidence of similar work undertaken in the recent past (not more than 3 years), including contact details of references

Deadline for application: **September, 2<sup>nd</sup> 2011** close of business: Please send your proposal by email to: [recruit@acordinternational.org](mailto:recruit@acordinternational.org), with the subject clearly marked **'TENDER FOR PAP End – Term Evaluation'**