



Terms of Reference

To Undertake an Assessment of the Agriculture Sector Strategic Plan (ASSP) to Determine its Performance on Promotion, Protection of Indigenous Food Systems for Healthy, Diverse and Nutritious Diets

1. About Food Rights Alliance

Food Rights Alliance is a coalition with over 40 members spread out in all regions of Uganda. Founded in 1999, FRA has organized its self to bring organizations and individuals working on food, agriculture and related policies to ensure that the right to adequate food is not violated and promoting the right to food as a pivot social, economic and democratic transformation tool.

FRA is driven by a vision of a world free from hunger and malnutrition and promotes a mission; to promote the realization of the right to food in Uganda through strengthening sustainable farming systems and improving food and nutrition Justice. Operationalized in a goal statement of advancing the Right to Food, and its Non-Variation for all in Uganda.

FRA achieves her mission through a number of strategies, including; building a formidable, strong in numbers and competence and diversity network of members and stakeholders that influences policy and practice at different levels: developing and profiling champions on critical issues of the agenda of realizing the right to adequate food, equipped with knowledge and information and credible to flag the agenda in policy and practice.

Under her strategic area on Food Justice and Governance, FRA is conducting an 18 months programme on ***“Integrated agriculture sector investment planning for improved nutritious, healthy and diverse diets”***. Our advocacy efforts have been conceptualized in a campaign mode to set the agenda on integrating improved nutrition and sustainable diets in the country’s development and investment frameworks. The overall result of this advocacy journey is improved planning and investment on promotion, protection and preservation of indigenous foods in the agriculture sector.

Through these efforts we wish to see; specific strategies, targets and indicators set out in the sector investment plan on improving nutrition and sustainable diets through promotion, protection and preservation of indigenous foods defined in next Agriculture Sector Strategic Plan II.

The advocacy initiative is not an end in its self but a continuous process of rethinking and redirecting decision making in farming and food systems through not only the developed framework but also the subsequent implementation.

2. Background

Despite undeniable progress in reducing rates of undernourishment and improving levels of nutrition and health, almost 800 million people are chronically hungry and 2 billion suffer micronutrient

deficiencies in the world¹. In Uganda, four in every ten Ugandans are unable to meet their dietary needs, 38 percent of children below 5 years of age in Uganda are stunted, while 22.5 percent are underweight for their age. Vitamin A deficiency has a prevalence rate of 5.4 percent. Iron deficiency anaemia affects slightly more than 50 percent of the population, while 10 percent of Ugandan women are undernourished (Strategic Review Report on SDG 2 2017).

It is estimated that average calorie consumption in Uganda is only between 75 and 90 percent of recommended requirements. Moreover, the levels of protein and fats intake are 33 and 20 percent below minimum recommended levels, respectively.² Although stunting among children has reduced by 27% from 2009/10 to 2015/16, overweight among women has consistently increased for the last 20 years rising from 8% in 1995 to 19% in 2011, besides the low access to school meals by majority of school going children. There are regional variations and whereas stunting has reduced in general terms has instead almost doubled in some parts of the country unfortunately that are still recorded in diverse food systems. According to the UDHS report 2016, 29% of children under 5 are shorter than their age, 53% of all children between the ages of 6 to 59 months were anemic of which 54 were in rural areas and 32% of women in the reproductive age were too recorded anemic.

By and large the complexity of the food and nutrition issues in Uganda is not due to absence of resources or foods, but rather an issue of organization and planning, therefore the need for strategic planning for sustainable food and nutrition are much higher in the National development and sector specific development frameworks. This is critical for creating an enabling environment for both rights holders and duty bearers to meet their responsibilities and obligations. However, increasingly, these frameworks are becoming less people centered and more corporate focused with little or no safeguards that can support and guarantee people's rights not only to resources but as well to adequate food. Therefore, space needs to be created for conversation, consensus building, and amplified voicing of food producers, consumers, handlers and policy makers towards a harmonised strategy of ensuring the population of today and tomorrow adequately feeds and not necessarily being fed.

3. Objective of the Assignment

Against this background, FRA found it prudent to conduct an assessment of the concluding ASSP (FY 2015/16 to FY 2019/20) to determine its performance on promotion, protection and preservation of indigenous food systems to promote healthy, diverse and nutritious diets. This shall be the primary message of our entire influencing work on the process of developing new development and investment frameworks 20/21 to 25/16.

Specifically this exercise will require;

- 1) An analysis of the current nutrition security status of the country
- 2) An Assessment of the extent to which the ASSP guides prioritization of indigenous foods as a nutritional instrument in the sector's development trajectory
- 3) Identify and justify recommendations for integrating promotion, protection and preservation of indigenous food systems to promote healthy, diverse and nutritious diets in the next ASSP

II

¹ Ibid

² Ibid page 11

- 4) Develop strategic objectives, performance targets and indicators on promotion, protection and preservation of indigenous food systems to promote healthy, diverse and nutritious diets to define duties and responsibilities for the next ASSP II.

4. Key Deliverables required

In undertaking the above tasks, the consultancy is expected to deliver the following;

1. An inception report with detailed study methodology/approach and work plan with clear milestones
2. Final assessment report approved by FRA

5. Time frame

The consultancy will be for a maximum period of 20 working days commencing in April 19th 2019. **This assignment is urgently required to inform on going advocacy policy engagements to reviewing and inputting into the Agriculture Sector Strategic Plan (ASSP II).**

6. Consultant is required to possess

1. Demonstrable experience in assignments of similar nature, including understanding the of policy environment and budget allocation to agriculture sector.
2. Professional experience in conducting research (desk review of documents& analysis);
3. Good analytical skills;
4. Excellent documentation and writing skills, attested by past written papers;
5. Relevant academic qualification- preferably post graduate training; Economic policy, Policy studies.
6. Availability to meet project deadlines.

7. How to apply

Submit expression of the interest with following details

1. Letter of interest.
2. Inception report (methodology, plan of action and interpretation of Terms of Reference).
3. Financial implication of the undertaking of the assignments of the bid (preferably in UGX).
4. Detailed profile of the applicant, indicative of previous relevant experience.

8. Contacts

Interested persons/organizations should send their application letter, updated CV and other required documentation to FRA via frauganda@gmail.com and copy to rkabasomi22@gmail.com

