Expression of Interest Notice

Selection of an individual consultant

"Legal Adviser Consultant in Community Livestock and Transhumance Mechanism on behalf of the Support Programme for Livestock Marketing in West Africa - based in Abuja.

Reference : ARAA/PACBAO/2020/AMI/15

Date of publication : 12 4 AVR 2020

Deadline for filing : 11 5 MAI 2020

Duration of the mission : On year renewable

Number of years of experience : 05 years at least

I- Context

Livestock and markets for animal products are important foundations for food and nutritional security and regional integration in West Africa. Livestock production areas are located in the Sahelian regions and the main consumption basins are located in the major cities of coastal countries such as Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Nigeria and Senegal. There are 3 major trade transaction and transhumance corridors at the same time, the most important of which is the central corridor that runs from Burkina Faso and Mali to Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Benin and Togo, Nigeria. Trucking has become the preferred mode of transport. Although the livestock population has grown strongly in recent years, the supply from regional production (1,421,317 tonnes) remains insufficient for the population (300 million in 2014). Red tape, roads, racketeering and corruption limit trade and encourage extra-regional meat imports (445,000 tonnes/year, i.e. 1/3 of the region's supply).

Despite its low productivity, the contribution of livestock farming to the GDP of the Sahelian countries remains significant, varying between 13% and 20% depending on the country. Livestock farming is also a major source of employment, employing more than 50% of the population, especially women and young people, who are heavily involved in the farming of short-cycle species. In view of its strategic importance, West Africa has adopted community policies favourable to the production and marketing of livestock.

In general, the ECOWAS area must improve the application of regulations that can ensure the competitiveness of agricultural products within the region and with third countries in order to enable better marketing of the region's livestock. This would improve the performance of actors including those within the Confederation of National Federations of the Meat Livestock Sector (COFENABVI-AO) for West Africa.

At the ECOWAS level, livestock issues are mainly covered by two major regional policies:

- Agricultural policy (ECOWAP/CADP), which includes the livestock sub-sector;
- trade policy, covering on the one hand the policy at the borders of the ECOWAS space (CET) and intra-community trade policy, with the ECOWAS Trade Liberalization Scheme (SLEC).

- Decision A/DEC.5/10/98 relating to the regulation of transhumance between ECOWAS Member States Regulation C/REG.3/01/03 relating to the implementation of ECOWAS Decision A/DEC.5/10/98

The increasing mobility of herds is increasing the interdependence between the Sahel and coastal countries, both in terms of livestock production and livestock marketing. Trans-border transhumance is necessary to allow herds to continue their growth cycle by grazing in areas that receive more water during the dry season.

The monitoring of the implementation and enforcement of community schemes is currently experiencing major difficulties that ECOWAS wants to resolve.

Within the institutional framework for the implementation of ECOWAP, the Regional Agency for Agriculture and Food (ARAA, based in Lomé) was created by regulation C/REG.1/08/11. Its mandate is "to ensure the technical execution of regional investment programmes and plans contributing to the operationalisation of the ECOWAS agricultural policy, by relying on regional institutions, organisations and actors with proven expertise". Launched on 27 September 2013, ARAA implements several projects and programmes contributing to the operationalization of the ECOWAS Regional Agricultural Policy.

The Swiss Cooperation supports the implementation of ECOWAP through, among others, the financing of the Programme to Support Livestock Marketing in West Africa (PACBAO). Within this framework, ARAA has obtained the partner's agreement for the recruitment of a "Legal Adviser Consultant in Community Livestock and Transhumance Mechanism" to assist in advising the Directorate of Agriculture and Rural Development (Abuja) in the review and implementation of the community mechanism related to livestock in general, and more specifically that on transhumance, pastoralism and livestock marketing in West Africa.

The objectives of PACBA are to:

(a) Fluidize trade in live cattle along transnational corridors and in cross-border areas. Emphasis will be placed on support to the management of public policies concerning the livestock/meat sector and multi-stakeholder dialogue through support to the operational and institutional strengthening of ECOWAS to enable it fulfill its regional mandate;

(b) Strengthen the organisation of private stakeholders throughout the region.

II- Duties and Responsibilities

- Under the supervision of the Director of Agriculture and Rural Development, the Consultant's tasks and responsibilities are as follows:
  - Contribute to the analysis and review of ECOWAS regulations on livestock breeding, livestock marketing, pastoralism and transhumance, particularly Decision A/DEC.5/10/98 and Regulation C/REG.3/01/03;
  - To identify the difficulties and challenges of implementing the regulatory mechanisms in the Member States;
  - To prepare, on the basis of ongoing evaluation studies, the texts revising the Decision and the Regulation, which date from 1998 and 2003 respectively, to provide support for the management of monitoring and evaluation databases within the ARAA or for projects and programmes;
- Contributing to the preparation of the PACBAO reports in accordance with the procedures in force;
- Actively collaborate with other ECOWAS Programmes and Projects intervening in the livestock sector;
- Represent the Directorate of Agriculture and Rural Development in meetings and discussions relating to community mechanisms related to the livestock sector;
- To advise and prepare for the Directorate of Agriculture and Rural Development the complementary regulatory mechanisms necessary for the Livestock and Meat Trade in West Africa;
- Cooperate with the Executive Directorate of ARAA, the Regional Animal Health Centre, ECOWAS Directorates in charge of Legal Affairs, Trade, Customs, Peace and Regional Security, Private Sector and Free Movement of Goods and Persons, Research and Documentation (Court of Justice) within the framework of the mandate;
- Carry out any other task entrusted to it by the Directorate of Agriculture and Rural Development.

III - Qualifications / Experience

- Have a university degree (BAC+4 years) in Law, Rural Law, Business Law, Agricultural Economics and Rural Development ;
- Have at least 5 years of relevant experience in Community law (ECOWAS).

IV - Skills

- To have a good practice of Community law, of the revision of Community legal texts, of the process of drafting Community legal texts ;
- Have a general knowledge of the agricultural sector in the West African region;
- Have a good knowledge of ECOWAS and the Institutions of the Community;
- Have a good sense of organization, document synthesis, communication and good computer skills (word processing, data management, presentation, video conferencing) etc. ;
- Excellent technical writing skills;
- Ability to work in a multicultural environment such as that of ECOWAS;
- Be in good health and be available for frequent travel.

V - Language

- Must speak and read fluently one of the official languages of ECOWAS (English, French, Portuguese). A working knowledge of a second language would be an advantage.

VI - Location, Duration and start of the mission

- The consultant will be based in Abuja (Nigeria) within the Directorate of Agriculture and Rural Development.
- The duration of the mission is twelve (12) months with the possibility of renewal depending on the availability of funds and the performance of the consultant.
- The mission will start within two (2) weeks at the latest following the signature of the intellectual service contract.
VII - Application file

The application file package is made up of:

- A letter of expression of interest, including the period of availability;
- A recent curriculum vitae detailing the work experience and similar assignments;
- Three professional references (names and forenames, current functions, functions at the time of the collaboration with the Consultant, email and telephone contacts);
- Copy of the highest degree in agricultural economics, rural development, economics, agronomy, agro-economics, statistics or any related discipline;
- Copy of employment Certificate or assignments completion mentioned in the curriculum vitae.

NB: Any incomplete document will be rejected.

VIII - Submission of applications

Applications are received no later than 15 Mai 2020 at 16 h 00mn GMT, by physical deposits or by e-mail at the following addresses:

Regional Agency for Agriculture and Food (RAAF),
83, Rue de la Pâture, Lomé, Togo (sealed envelope: “Consultant, Legal Adviser in Community Livestock and Transhumance System -RAAF”).
procurement.pacbao@araa.org

Subject: "Legal Adviser Consultant in Community Livestock and Transhumance System -ARAA".

NB: Applications which do not bear the words " Consultant, Legal Adviser in Community Livestock and Transhumance System -RAAF " will not be considered.

IX - Selection method

The Consultant will be selected according to the qualification-based selection method as defined in the ECOWAS Code. An interview session may be organized with a short list of consultants.

Only shortlisted applications will be contacted. RAAF reserves the right not to act on this expression of interest.

The Executive Director

SALIFOU Ousseini