TERMS OF REFERENCES



OVERVIEW			
PROJECT:	Food System Transformative Integrated Policy (FS-TIP)	VACANCY TYPE:	Consultancy
TARGET COUNTRIES:	Ghana and Malawi	DEADLINE:	MAY 19, 2021

PROJECT CONTEXT

The imperative for food system transformation is now universally acknowledged by African governments, but several obstacles stand in the way of holistic food system change (e.g., competing priorities, fragmented governance, short-termism). To overcome these obstacles, a galvanizing vision, clear policy framework, and enabling conditions are required.

Therefore, Rockefeller Foundation and IDRC have funded a coalition of partner institutions, including Tony Blair Institute, APHRC, Akademiya2063, AGRA, BCG and IFPRI to support select national governments in Africa which demonstrate courageous and visionary political will to embark on a food system transformation journey.

This initiative and the associated coalition are named Food System Transformative Integrated Policy (FS-TIP). This work aligns with in-country Food System Summit Dialogues programs.

Currently, three target countries – Rwanda, Ghana and Malawi – have been identified as the initial focus countries for our efforts. The main purpose of the project is to support national governments in Africa in the development of policy agenda to achieve sustainable, healthy diets for all their citizens.

FS-TIP will:

- Develop a comprehensive mapping of the country food system which includes actors, indicators (plus data source), benchmarks and policy alignment based on HPLE food system framework. Such mapping should highlight gaps in terms of progress, data and policy. Develop a comprehensive institutional mapping of public, private and social sector actors responsible for articulating, legislating and implementing food systems policy
- Provide insight on trade-offs and synergies between policy interventions and feedback loops within food systems, working towards the long-term goal of sustainable healthy diets for all
- Devise optimal policy agenda and operating model for integrated policy (through inter-ministerial platform and cross-sectorial engagement); supporting innovation and investments in the country;
- Provide recommendations to improve country's statistical system and Malabo compliant agriculture and food and nutrition security strategies in alignment with the food system approach.

PURPOSE OF THE CONSULTANCY

AKADEMYIA2063 is looking for experts with a good local network and as a group covering the different areas of expertise required in Ghana and Malawi, 3-4 experts for each country. The areas of expertise include 1) Agriculture, environment and upstream segments; 2) Processing, post-harvest and value chain downstream segments; 3) Nutrition, consumption and health; and 4) Cross-cutting: Gender, youth, equity. Specifically, the consultants will be expected to:

- Conduct selected parts of landscape and diagnostic analysis
- Help with development and challenge country hypotheses and insights on challenges and opportunities
- Connect the country team with key stakeholders in food system ecosystem in the selected country

We are looking for several experts with extensive knowledge on any or more of the following components of the food systems:

- Agricultural supply chains: Visibility into value chains and infrastructure involved in food production, processing, distribution and storage, sales, retailing and marketing alongside
- Environment and climate change in relation to food systems: Approaches for mitigating climate change, limiting ecosystem degradation and improving environmental outcomes through a sustainable food system
- Diets, nutrition, and health outcomes: In depth understanding of dietary practices, policies and the associated nutrition and health impacts for households, regions, population segments
- Gender and equity in food systems: Including women, youth, and other key population segments with a lens that builds more equity within and across the entire food system

EXPECTED SCHEDULE OF TASKS

Reporting to the country project manager, the consultant will be expected to complete the following specific tasks:

Develop workplan in consultation with the country manager for conducting the country landscaping and diagnostic analysis

Conduct the country landscaping and diagnostic analysis in his/her areas of expertise and

- Conduct desk research and provide feedback to FS-TIP dashboard design based on academic papers, government policies, private sector reports, other
- Collect data from existing sources (e.g., CAADP M&E, Malabo Biennial Review, FAO, UN, World Bank, WHO, FS dashboard, national databases etc.), and stakeholder interviews, on the different indicators of the FS-TIP dashboard on which the consultant has expertise
- Determine data gaps to be addressed in Phase 2 of FS-TIP
- Gather relevant policies, regulations and strategy documents such as for example the CAADP/Malabo commitments, National Accelerated Agricultural Input Programs, Health Strategies focused
- Maintain accurate and complete records of all findings
- Develop hypotheses and insights on the basis of data collection, on main opportunities and challenges for transformative policies, including first view on trade-offs and synergies of policies

Stakeholder mapping and engagements

- Connect FS-TIP team to relevant stakeholders in country
- Contribute to the design and implementation of the stakeholder engagement plan and FS-TIP future governance structure

Dissemination of insights

 Provide input to policy briefs (as required) which will present key insights from analyses to a broader audience

KEY DELIVERABLES

The consultant is expected to contribute to the following deliverables:

- 1. FS-TIP dashboard for the country structured along the 5 action tracks of Food Systems summit; gathering data and conducting analyses for those components of the food system on which consultant has expertise
- 2. Overview of current policies in place
 - Mapping and analysis of policies in place in main dimensions: agriculture (inputs, productions, processing), trade, education and health & nutrition and environment. covering equity and gender and national and sub-national levels
 - o At 2 levels: national, sub-national
- 3. Stakeholder engagements and mapping of key stakeholders in the country involved in food systems, including design of long-term governance of FS-TIP in the country
- 4. Policy brief and other materials use in dissemination of insights developed during the project

TIMELINE

- The consultant is expected to work with the country program manager to develop a timeline for the completion of the work. During of the assignment will be around 16 weeks and for 1 1.5 days a week.
- The consultant is expected to regularly share the work progress based on the defined timeline to get immediate feedback from the team.

The engagement will take place between April and August 2021

QUALIFICATIONS AND SKILLS

- A minimum of a master's degree (or equivalent) in agriculture economics, international development studies, public policy, food and nutrition security, public health, environmental economics or a related field
- Demonstrated track record in at least one of the components of food systems (agriculture, environment, nutrition/public health)
- Experience in producing high-quality research and analysis in a timely manner and in a fast-paced environment
- Proven experience in applied research and policy analysis
- Demonstrable experience working on African economic development policy, with a focus on food system transformation
- Experience working with international or multi-stakeholder organizations and institutions or governments
- Knowledge of the country (Ghana or Malawi) institutional and policy landscape as they relate to the context of FS-TIP and food systems transformation

- Good network of pre-existing contacts withing the country institutional and policy landscape, including the public and private sector, research organizations and NGOs
- Reliable and diligent with excellent attention to detail
- Ability to analyze and research complex ideas and apply appropriate methodologies
- Ability to prioritize own work in response to deadlines, with minimal supervision
- Commitment to meeting deadlines whilst maintaining high quality of work, resilient

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

- A cover letter with a brief description of why you consider yourself the most suitable candidate for the assignment.
- A CV indicating all experience from similar projects and specifying the relevant assignment period (from/to)
- Details of any professional qualifications
- Contact details (email and telephone) of at least three (3) professional references (note that these will only be approached with your permissions)

The deadline for applications is 23:59 GMT on 19/05/2021

PROPOSALS

Your project proposal should include the following:

- a Statement of Work defining how the project is to be delivered
- projected milestones and critical activities
- an all-inclusive daily fee in USD (US\$)
- any relevant supporting or qualifying information

Please submit your proposal to careers@akademiya2063.org and include the consultancy title in the subject line.