



CALL FOR CONSULTANCY TO REVIEW OF THE VEGETABLE TRAINING MATERIALS (Training manual, crop guides and booklets)

The Integrated Seed Sector Development (ISSD) Plus Project is a 4-year project coordinated by the Centre for Development Innovation (CDI) and funded by the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Kampala. The project is implemented by Wageningen UR Uganda in collaboration with the National Agricultural Research Organisation (NARO) for public varieties and food crops and private sector for vegetable seed. The programme aims to strengthen the development of a vibrant, pluralistic and market-oriented seed sector that is able to address key challenges that hamper the seed sector development in Uganda. ISSD Plus project has four components: a) addressing bottlenecks in early generation seed (EGS) and creating an enabling environment for the seed sector; b) enhancing the Quality Declared Seed system through supporting Local Seed Businesses; c) promotion of uptake of quality seed, and d) promoting the use of advanced vegetable varieties.

Background:

The vegetable component within the ISSD Plus project, is aimed at contributing to increased earnings and competitiveness of the vegetable sector actors which would subsequently contribute to improved national food and nutrition security. The commonly identified major constraints to vegetable production and competitiveness of the sector both on the local/regional and international markets include, limited access to and knowledge of well-adapted varieties that are available in the market, lack of knowledge and skills in recommended agronomic practices, pre-dominant use of low quality seedlings from field nurseries, high pest and disease pressure, poor water and fertilizer use, lack of market information on vegetable crops, inconsistency in vegetable product quality and supply, non-conformity to phytosanitary requirements, high production cost and low productivity. Such constraints have led to lower overall competitiveness of the Ugandan vegetable sector in comparison to neighboring Kenya.

Justification of the study:

The ISSD Plus's interventions under the Vegetable sector component promotes and supports effective use of advanced varieties of exotic vegetables. The implementation is predominantly by knowledge transfer through farmer field visits, variety demonstrations, in-depth trainings on practical agronomy; all of which are reinforced by training materials which include, crop guides, training manuals and technical booklets. The training materials were developed by Wageningen University in collaboration with SEVIA in Tanzania.

During the midterm review, users of the training materials cited information gaps within the materials thus the need to review the materials to match the new developments within the sector and to customize the information to the Ugandan situation. There is a need for critical review and rewriting of the materials to make them more user friendly by the sector actors in Uganda.

Purpose and objectives:

The assignment is purposed to revise the available materials, identify information gaps there in and rewrite them in a more comprehensive and user-friendly style that will make them more relevant and appropriate to the farmers and the sector professionals.

Methodology:

The consultant will be expected to undertake the following activities from April to June 2019

1. Collect feedback from users on the existing materials
2. Review the materials and re-write them to suit the state of the Ugandan vegetable sector

The revised materials shall be reviewed by a selected committee for approval.

Deliverables for the assignment

The deliverables for this assignment are:

1. Soft copies of training materials
2. The developed materials shall be reviewed by a team comprised of 2 sector professionals, 2 commercial farmers, the vegetable team at ISSD Plus, 1 person from the academia and 1 person from WUR – Plant science for approval

Key Requirements for the consultant

- Possess a Master's degree in Horticulture, Crop science or any other agricultural field with knowledge in vegetable production.
- Experience in providing Education / Extension services within the Vegetable sector.
- Proven hands on skills in vegetable production
- Good understanding of the vegetable production systems in Uganda
- Fluent in English, both spoken and written with report writing skills.

How to apply: Interested consultancy firms/individual consultants are encouraged to submit technical proposals, and resumes (max.4 pages) justifying their competences, skills and experience to handle the task. Proposals should be submitted to hr@issduganda.org not later than **07th of April 2019**.

More information about ISSD and the call visit our website: www.issduganda.org.