1. Vi Agroforestry

Vi Agroforestry is a Swedish development organisation that has been operating in East Africa since 1983. The organisation has its headquarters in Stockholm, Sweden and a Regional Office in Nairobi, Kenya. With country offices in Masaka (Uganda), Mwanza (Tanzania), Kigali (Rwanda) and Kitale (Kenya).

Vi Agroforestry has recently completed the implementation of a 5-year programme and is currently implementing another 5-year programme that aims to sustainable improve the livelihoods of smallholder farmer families in Sub-Saharan Africa through increased climate change resilience, food security, higher incomes, and greater equality between women and men by 2022. The programme targets smallholder farmer families living in poverty, with a special focus on women, children and youth, who are members or potential members of democratic farmers’ organisations in areas vulnerable to climate change in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Over the years of operation, Vi Agroforestry continues to develop methods and approaches for greater impact. Technical manuals on various areas such as Sustainable Agricultural Land Management (SALM), Value chain development, Gender, among others have been developed to better support implementing partner organisations as well as staff within Vi Agroforestry. However, the mode of engagement with the diverse groups within the community has not been advanced.

2. Intervention background

2.1 FOA Programme

A 5-year (2012-2017) programme called Lake Victoria Farmer Organisations´Agroforestry Programme (FOA) was developed and implemented by Vi Agroforestry and local partner organisations. The
Programme was funded by Sida CIVSAM among other donors. The Programme was designed with intention to increase local ownership by civil society organisations and strengthen their relevance in relation to the rights based perspective identified as priority areas during a previous evaluation.

The mission of the FOA programme was to improve the living conditions for farmer households through sustainable use of natural resources within the Lake Victoria Basin. The programme goal was to be achieved through six programme components with thirteen outcomes. The programme components and outcomes were shared by the consortia who work towards achievements of the outcomes and hence delivery of the programme goal. The FOA programme’s objective of “empowered partner organisations addressing the rights of their members and effectively contributing to sustainable land use management in the Lake Victoria Basin” was to be achieved by supporting partner farmer organisations for organisation development. The farmer organisations were to support their members in the following components that are of importance to this study:

1. Agroforestry, Environment and Climate Change: capacity building farmers on various methods to reverse land degradation such as adoption agroforestry and sustainable agriculture land management (SALM) practices and to adopt the use of energy saving devices and alternative energy

2. Farm Enterprise Development: up-scaling of market led commercialisation and value chain development activities

2.2 Agroforestry for Livelihood Empowerment (ALIVE) Programme

The ALIVE programme will run from 2018 to 2022. The programme will contribute towards both the Vi Agroforestry vision of ‘a sustainable environment that enables women and men living in poverty to improve their lives’ and primarily five of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) identified by Vi Agroforestry strategy; No poverty, Zero hunger, Gender Equality, Climate Action, and Life on land.

The programme will work through two interconnected pathways to reach its goal. The farmer organisations play a crucial role to monitor duty bearers and to support smallholder farmers to claim their rights. This pathway will work towards structural changes and build stronger farmer organisations that are able to play this role effectively. The farmer organisations are at the same time duty bearers towards their members. They have the role to empower smallholder ‘farmer’ families through better services delivery. This
includes supporting their members to be able to maximize their opportunities and make choices that will empower them and improve their livelihoods. This will form the second pathway. The two interconnected pathways require the farmer organisations to be strong, democratic and sustainable. This will be a key focus in this programme and aligns to Swedish government’s strategy. The programme’s objective is ‘To create societal changes enabling economic empowerment of small-holder farmer families through market-led, sustainable agriculture based on agroforestry’

3. **Purpose of the evaluation**

Vi Agroforestry intends to evaluate the results achieved at farm level over the last 5 years from the FOA Programme, then learn from the conclusions and integrate those learnings into new interventions, methods, tools and practices to improve programming under ALIVE programme. The purpose of the evaluation is therefore two-folded;

1) Evaluate the farm level results achieved by the FOA programme. More specifically, use scientific methods to establish the link between agroforestry based SALM practices and results such as livelihood and food security improvement for farmers and reduction of environmental degradation for the community in FOA programme areas.

2) Design a programme level survey methodology, data collection tools and analysis framework for evaluation of the ALIVE programme objective level indicators.

4. **Methodologies**

Vi Agroforestry aims to apply a Human Rights Based Approach in all the activities. Although this assignment is external and independent, the evaluation is an important opportunity to learn and reflect for the Vi Agroforestry staff and partner organisations. The process should therefore be inclusive, participatory and transparent in all its stages. The preliminary findings and recommendations should be validated by the partner organisations and Vi Agroforestry staff prior to writing the final report.

4.1 **FOA Results Evaluation**

The tender should present an implementation proposal that includes, but is not necessarily limited to, the following evaluation methods:
• **Desk study:** relevant strategies and policies, programme documents, result reports, earlier evaluations and other relevant studies.

• **Interviews with key stakeholders,** including: Vi Agroforestry staff, partner organisations, and other strategic actors.

• **Field visits:** Visits to at least two countries and some of the partner organisations.

• **Partner meetings:** Evaluation workshops will be held with partner organisations in selected countries as part of the field work.

The FOA results evaluation needs to answer the following questions:

a) What changes (personal, social, economic, technological, environmental, etc.) have been identified by the targeted farmers since the start of the programme? Have these changes been positive or negative, planned or unplanned? The consultant shall scientifically establish the following:

   a. The contribution of the FOA programme to the improvement of the farmers livelihoods in the study area
   b. The extent of FOA programme contribution to improved tree cover (surviving trees planted during the programme period)
   c. The contribution of FOA programme regarding the increased level of farmers awareness to climate change mitigation and adaptation

b) What factors explain the changes generated by the FOA programme?

c) What evidence proves that the changes identified in the study area are either sustainable or tending towards sustainability?

d) What factors affect the sustainability: political priorities, economic, institutional, technological, socio-cultural or environmental & climate change factors?

e) What challenges has been experienced by the farmers and the partners in achieving the FOA programme results?

4.2 **ALIVE baseline survey design**

The consultant is expected to design a survey methodology, data collection tools and analysis framework that will be use by Vi Agroforestry and the partner organisations in tracking the ALIVE Programme level objective. The
programme level objective is ‘Create societal changes enabling the realization of human rights and economic empowerment of small-holder farmer families through market-led, sustainable agriculture based on agroforestry’ and is tracked through the following indicators.

- % increase in proportion of the population living in households with access to basic services
- % reduction in proportion of women and men living below the national poverty line
- Number of countries that have integrated mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning into school/colleges curricula
- % reduction in net permanent forest loss in the countries of operations
- Prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity in the population, based on the Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES)

The indicators will be tracked by Vi Agroforestry with support from the partner farmer organisations working on projects financed by the ALIVE programme.

5. Work plan and schedule
The timeframe for the assignment is July-August 2018

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<tr>
<th>Deadlines and deliverables – preliminary dates</th>
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<tr>
<td>Publication of tender</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deadline tenders</td>
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<td>Signing of contract and start up meeting</td>
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<td>Inception phase, including desk review, elaboration of the evaluation methodology and initial interviews</td>
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<td>Deadline inception report</td>
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<tr>
<td>Field work in the region, including partner organisation workshops</td>
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<td>Deadline draft evaluation report</td>
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<td>Validation process (to be designed by the consultant)</td>
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<td>Deadline final report</td>
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6. Reporting
The inception will elaborate on the methodology to be used during the results evaluation and present a plan for the field visits. It will also determine to what degree the questions can be answered and if necessary, suggest
alternative questions. The inception report will also propose a format and headings for the evaluation report.

The draft report shall include preliminary findings and recommendations.

The final report will be no more than 30 pages, including an executive summary and excluding annexes. The report shall be written in English and should be written in such a way that it is easy to comprehend even without prior knowledge of Vi Agroforestry. The consultant shall adhere to the terminological conventions of the OECD/DAC Glossary on Evaluation and Results-Based Management as far as possible.

7. The Team

The consultant shall have the following qualifications:

- Experience from rural development programmes, preferably in Eastern Africa.
- Experience of evaluation of civil society development programmes.
- Experience of strategic planning, programming and organisational development in civil society organisations.
- Experience from inclusive and participatory evaluation methods.
- Experience of HRBA and gender programming.
- Knowledge of development cooperation strategies of EU and Sweden.
- Proficiency in English.
- Proficiency in national languages in East Africa (Kiswahili, Kinyarwanda and Luganda) is a merit.

The evaluators should be independent of the evaluated activities and have no stake in the outcome of the evaluation.

8. Proposal evaluation criteria

(a) Experience of the consultants in comparable assignments and target sites
(b) Adequacy of methodology and work plan including technical soundness
(c) Qualifications and competence of staff
(d) Proposal presentation and responsiveness to ToR
(e) Experience in conflict/risk analysis
(f) Price- fairness of cost items
9. **Tenders**

The offer should contain:

- A letter of interest addressed to the Regional Director
- A Technical offer showing the interpretation of the ToR and indicating a detailed proposed methodology
- A CV of the consultant or consultancy firm showing previous relevant experience
- A detailed financial offer (expressed in US Dollars indicating the cost required for the undertaking of the work required)

Submissions should include: ‘Farmers Organisation Agroforestry (FOA) Programme Results Evaluation and ALIVE Survey Design’ in the subject box.

Please send the technical and financial offers to recruitment@viagroforestry.org not later than the 13th July 2018.