



PEACE, PROSPERITY AND  
REGIONAL INTEGRATION

## **REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI) - INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT-EXTENDED**

**For**

### **CONSULTANCY SERVICE OF ASSESSMENT ON THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON FRUIT AND VEGETABLES TRADE BETWEEN DJIBOUTI AND ETHIOPIA**

#### **1- BACKGROUND:**

The African Union Food Security Summit in Abuja 2006 recommended that the development of regionally-coordinated value chains of strategic food and agricultural commodities offers viable pathway not only to increase productivity and production of these commodities, but also to promote value addition towards boosting intra-African trade in the related consumer products.

Agenda 2063 and Malabo 2014 declarations define the immediate future of the African economies around agriculture and orchestrated the key role of agricultural commodity value chains development as instrument for tripling intra-African trade.

Within IGAD region, the agriculture of fruits and vegetables has tremendous economic potentials for income generation and poverty alleviation at the local level, where other sources of income are less apparent. These potentials can be realized following from improved institutional arrangements and implementation of supportive policies and legal frameworks, elaboration of venture capital and mentoring schemes, adopting improved technologies and transport infrastructure for processing, value addition and marketing, improved information flows and the capture of green premiums from international markets. Added to this is the positive outlook for the economic viability of Fruits and Vegetables production and trade, associated with increasing interest in natural ingredients for the health reasons.

In addition, COVID-19 pandemic could exert a significant supply shock in the region, with food and agriculture systems being highly labor-intensive in most African countries, shortages of workers due to restrictions on people's and labor mobility may compromise the provision of inputs in upstream, farming activities and downstream trading, processing and transportation activities. This may be the case for all crops but especially for perishable horticulture products (such as vegetables, fruits, flowers) fish, meat and dairy products. There is a need to assess the existing trade and also the impact of this new pandemic on these perishable commodities.

The IGAD have received financing for EU towards Technical Cooperation Fund (TCF) and intends to apply a part of the financing for the consultancy service of an Assessment on the Impact of Covid-19 on Fruit and Vegetables Trade between Djibouti and Ethiopia.

#### **2- OBJECTIVES:**

The objective of this consultancy is to recruit a consultant to undertake an assessment exercise on the impact of COVID-19 on the Fruit and Vegetables Trade between Djibouti and Ethiopia, as a pilot project.

More specifically:

- To assess the impact of COVID-19 lockdown on the fruit and vegetables trade
- To undertake an analysis of the commercial relations, between the business communities of Djibouti and Ethiopia, in the Fruits and Vegetable sector.
- Identify the administrative, legal, regulatory and physical obstacle for commercial activities.
- Draft a proposal for recommendations and actions which should be agreed by the stakeholders

### **3- SCOPE & METHODOLOGY:**

The lead consultant will be required to assist IGAD in undertaking an assessment of the impact of COVID-19 on the bilateral trade opportunities and constrains between Djibouti and Ethiopia in agricultural sector of Fruits and vegetables.

The Lead consultant need to have 1 national expert from the other country (Ethiopia or Djibouti). He/She should take in to account the cost of national expert.

The Consultants will work under the overall guidance of Director of Agriculture and Environment Development with the day to day supervision by Food Security Ag. Program Manager.

The scope of the assignment will include the following:

- Conduct a desk review and analysis of literature on trade facilitations and regulations at continental, regional, national levels including reports from Djibouti, Ethiopia, IGAD, AU, FAO and other relevant bodies regarding the agricultural sector.
- Undertake wider consultations of relevant stakeholders including value chain actors in the fruit and vegetable market to fill the gaps in existing literature and identifying priorities in both countries
- Make an inventory on bilateral trade situation of Fruits and Vegetables between the two countries
- Carry a detailed data collection in the two countries
- Draft a proposal for recommendations and actions that enhance and strengthen bilateral fruit and vegetable market.
- Incorporate the comments of the member states in the final documents.

### **4- DELIVERABLES**

The consultant will produce:

- An inception report, within 15 days of starting the assignment (including the working plan);
- An intermediary report, following field mission to Ethiopia and Djibouti;
- A detailed and comprehensive final written report in English;
- A summary fact sheet in French.

### **5- QUALIFICATION**

**Minimum requirements:**

- MA in economics or social sciences, international trade or international management

- Eight years of professional experience relevant to the assignment, such as promotion of trade and regional integration, capacity building of private sector value chain, etc.
- Demonstrated consultancy experience in IGAD Region
- Submit assistant consultant CV from the other country of the lead consultant.

#### **SKILLS AND ABILITIES:**

- Excellent knowledge of regional and national context of trade value chain and data
- Language skills of the consultant: Fluent in English and French, good command of local language will be an advantage.

#### **6- TENURE OF THE ASSIGNMENT**

The time envisaged for the consultancy is 40 working-days, implemented during a period of 2 months.

#### **REMUNERATION**

**Negotiable on the basis of experience and qualifications**

#### **How to Apply**

Interested Consultants must submit their expression of interest (updated CV and non-returnable educational and work experience credentials with a cover letter) to the address below in person, or by mail or by email **no later than 200 pm local time on 5 August 2020**  
Our address is:

**Procurement Unit**  
Administration and Finance  
IGAD Secretariat  
Avenue Georges Clemenceau  
E-mail: [procurement@igad.int](mailto:procurement@igad.int)  
P.O. Box 2653,  
Djibouti, Republic of Djibouti

Women applicants are encouraged.