



Market orientation for consultancy services

Inventory of Clean Cooking Activities in West Africa

Introduction

This is a summary description of an inventory exercise to identify the most impactful areas where the upcoming Regional Action for Clean Cooking in West Africa (ReCCAWA) project can have most traction as well as the modalities through which it should engage. The inventory exercise will be carried out in close coordination with and result in recommendations to the Netherlands Enterprise Agency (RVO) and the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID) as the implementing organisations of the Action. The Action will run from 2025-2028 with a budget of EUR 15,5m, and is co-financed by the European Union and The Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The overall objective of ReCCAWA is to increase the access to affordable, reliable, clean and sustainable solutions for clean cooking in West Africa. This will be achieved through a three-pillar approach, which consists of improving the enabling environment, increasing the demand for clean cooking and firming up the supply of clean cooking solutions, through innovative finance mechanisms for both SMEs and consumers, while creating and sharing knowledge at all stages.

The specific interventions will have both national and a regional angle, and will be contributing to the Team Europe Initiative Africa EU Green Energy Initiative (AEGEI), and will be closely coordinated with the activities of other EU MS Agencies. The Action will be closely coordinated by the commissioning parties, the ECOWAS commission and ECREEE to agree on the actual activities, modalities and geography of the interventions by the end of Q2 2025.

At the start of the Action, RVO seeks consultants on this assignment to assist in the process of programming activities as part of the 'Phase I' of the Action. This inventory will build on the findings of the Scoping Report which was carried out by EU TAF in 2023 and other project documentation that exist at the start of the intervention.

Objective of assignment

The objective of the assignment is to carry out clean cooking sector country assessments of all West African countries, including: clean cooking ambitions, policies and existing legislation; Updated inventory of current on-going activities, including interventions of (international) NGOs and development organisations, governments and private sector; Identification of potential areas to strengthen on-going dynamics and existing and new activities, in the enabling environment, supply and demand side, taking into account government and Team Europe priorities; Support with the process of activity and geography selection using a multi-criteria matrix based on potential impact by the project.

The envisaged inventory process is described in the following steps, to be carried out by two qualified experts, jointly comprising an intricate understanding of the clean cooking access landscape in West Africa and experience in programming of international development cooperation interventions. The timing of the assignment would preferably be December 2024-June 2025. The work package would require in-country visits of an estimated 3-4 days in each of the eight countries identified in the DoA plus Nigeria (ECOWAS commission) and Cabo Verde (ECREEE). The assignment can be shared between the two experts. In addition, the assignment would include virtual (online) exchanges with stakeholders in Ghana, Niger, Guinea, Guinea – Bissau, Liberia and possibly Mauritania.



Indicative Task Description

Tasks include an Inception Phase, Literature Study and establishment of the Methodology. Physical visits to Benin, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cote D'Ivoire, The Gambia, Mali, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo are required. Virtual (online) visits are expected for Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mauretania, Niger. During the country visits, key representatives of the clean cooking sector will be consulted and an inventory of current and potential activities will be drafted systematically by the experts. The expert will further support an analysis and identification of proposed activities and implementation modalities including the selection of (preferably local) partners. The consultants are also expected to provide an assessment of the regional approach towards creating a regional clean cooking road map and regional standardisation. The consultants will organise and moderate a workshop on the validation of findings at a regional forum in West Africa and compose a final report on the results of the assignment.

Budget

The maximum budget for this assignment is EUR 123,950 (including local VAT and exclusive of NL taxes) based on a level of effort of 132 person-days (spread over two experts), plus a maximum of EUR 24,000 (excl. taxes) travel expenses based on actuals. The country visits would be split between the two experts with one travelling while the other supports online from their home base and vice versa. The traveling expert would in principle be accompanied by someone from RVO/AECID representing ReCCAWA project team.

Profiles sought

Contracting Authority (RVO) is looking for the following expertise profiles for this assignment:

1. Team Leader: Clean Cooking Sector expert - Overall responsibility for the work (quality and deadlines), coordinating and ensuring communication with RVO, with at least 10 years of experience in international development and 5 years in clean cooking.
2. Key Expert: Clean Cooking Market Development expert - complementary profile to the Team Leader, with at least 5 years of experience in international development and 3 years in clean cooking

Both experts together should encompass excellent mastering of English and French. Of the two experts, one would preferably have an energy access / clean cooking profile and the other an SME / Finance profile, jointly mastering at least the English and French languages. Both experts together should at least cover experience in clean cooking policy, standards and labelling, support and financing to SMEs the supply chain. Both experts should be fit and ready to travel to 10 West African countries.

Expression of interest

Interested companies are invited to send an expression of interest to RVO, by sending an e-mail to jessica.scheffers@rvo.nl of the Procurement Office.