

21/05/2013

Terms of Reference for a short term consultancy

Term of Reference: Consultancy to draft and compile a paper on Food Security based on Caritas member's case studies

These Terms of Reference outline the proposed goal and objectives of the project and detail the requirements for a short term consultancy to research and write evidence based paper on Food Security.

Caritas Europa (CE) is a network of 49 social and development organisations established in 46 European countries, which are part of the global Caritas Internationalis Confederation, present in over 160 countries.

Inspired by the Catholic Social Teaching, the Caritas organisations in Europe are dedicated to contributing towards the eradication of extreme poverty and social exclusion, the realisation of human rights and peace, and to challenging the structures of injustice and inequality throughout the world. In thousands of projects and institutions, Caritas organisations are in daily touch and interaction with millions of people experiencing poverty and hunger worldwide.

Caritas Europa develops analyses and recommendations to effectively influence the policies of the European governments and the European Union, which impact the living conditions of the poor and vulnerable people in Europe and in developing countries.

Caritas Europa together with its members promotes the Right to Food on both the EU and Member State levels. The report will use concrete case studies (see the list in Annex I) to link our advocacy demands to good practices from projects and programmes Caritas is developing at field level.

Background and Rationale for the Research:

Governments, institutions and organisations increasingly recognise the imperative of securing access to food for all and especially the most vulnerable. They also recognise the need to increase the resilience of the food system; to increase investment in agriculture and other forms of food production and provision, especially investments by small-scale food providers themselves; to strengthen domestic food production and nutrition security, especially in food deficit households, communities and countries; to address risk issues such as climate change and food price volatility; to ensure secure access to land, water and genetic resources for food and agriculture for small-scale food providers; and to do all this in ways that are socially and environmentally sustainable. But very different strategies are being proposed to meet these goals.

Therefore Caritas wishes to develop a report that evidences its position and recommendations as a valuable alternative to current EU and Member States' policies

Goal and Purpose of the research and advocacy project:

Caritas wishes to raise awareness, to influence the perspectives and policies of the EU and of Member States in a moment where the European Union steps up its efforts to fight against world hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition and where the new global development framework is forged over the next years before the MDGs expire.

Objective of the report: Building upon earlier Caritas documents, the report should evidence clearly the main recommendations Caritas has advocated for (Annex III) through concrete case studies/projects. The document will be part of the European contribution to the global Caritas Internationalis campaign on Food Security.

The report will be written in a clear, easily accessible style that can get the attention of non-specialist policy makers and political decision makers and convince them of the feasibility of Caritas recommendations.

Methodology:

A short policy briefing paper will be compiled by the consultant who will include policy analysis, as well as case study examples (produced by the Caritas Member Organisations, list in Annex I). This will be compiled using a two-pronged approach:

1. The researcher will undertake a short piece of research on theoretical framework, institutional context and existing work/literature in this area, as well as a first draft of policy recommendations produced by Caritas (Annex II).
2. Caritas Europa Member Organisations have conducted case studies (on good practices developed in their projects in developing countries) and compiled information on (land grabbing and incoherencies of EU policies) to provide documented evidence that will support the recommendations.

Key question to address:

- What kind of policies do we want the EU to design and implement to ensure food security?

Outline and Final Output:

The consultant will prepare a concise printed and electronic report of words (18 pages A 4) which encompasses:

- Articulation of Caritas demands with concrete case/projects

- Updated set of recommendations (no more than 8) with concrete recommendations to the EU Institutions and Member States. Policy recommendations should take account of previous Caritas positions.
- Executive summary
- Introduction:
 - Caritas Europa work
 - Current situation (updated data) on global hunger.
 - Current commitments at global and EU level
 - Current processes shaping future commitments at global and EU levels
- chapter 1:
 - Realize the Right to Food as the basis and the principle to ensure food security.
 - Why it is important
 - how did we achieve it or contribute to it in our projects (BOXES to be developed)
 - How do we think the institutions and ourselves can contribute to achieve it (same distribution for each chapter)
- Chapter 2:
 - Importance of agriculture for development (in particular agro ecology) Sustainable production - the agro ecological model & Improved productivity & support to small scale farmers (women). Support family farming/ Support for small-scale food producers
- Chapter 3. Eradicate unjust trade in agriculture & speculations on food
- Chapter 4. Land-grabbing
- Chapter 5. Resilience (longer term of humanitarian aid)
- Chapter 6. Environment and protection of natural resources and Climate change
- Chapter 7. Policy coherence to combat poverty and hunger
- Conclusions

Days work:

The consultancy will be conducted in no longer than 15 working days, with 10 days for the desk review and writing up the first draft and 5 days for consultation and peer review of findings with Caritas Europa and ICHA Member Organisations participating in this project.

Profile:

Advanced University Degree in Economics, Development, Agricultural economics, Development studies, Rural development, EU policies or other relevant field

Technical Competencies and Experience Requirements

Three years' experience in food security analysis and policy advice.

Experience in working on food security issues.

Ability to work in a project environment and to effectively contribute to activities such as strengthening food security information systems and food security monitoring information management.

Knowledge about Catholic Social Teaching applied to the field of Development and Food Security will be an asset.

Timeline:

- **June:** Researcher contracted Caritas Member Organisations undertake case study research
- **June:** Research consultancy starts.
- **June:** The first draft of the research after 10 working days is finalised by the consultant. Comments and suggestions are elaborated by caritas Members.
- **July/August:** Second draft is finalised with comments and suggestions and literature collated and publication produced
- **September-October:** Publication launched and advocacy campaign initiated

Intellectual Property:

Caritas Europa keeps the intellectual property over the final report delivered, keeping the right to introduce any change considered necessary. The authorship and/or contribution to the final product will be acknowledged in the publication.

Administrative procedure:

Applications must be sent to ifernandez@caritas-europa.org and should include:

- Updated CV
- A copy of a previous qualitative report on development issues
- A financial offer not exceeding 3000 Euros all included.
- Deadline to present applications: 7th June
- Decision: 10th of June.

Annex 1: List of preselected case studies

Annex 2: Project Concept note

Annex 3: Caritas legacy recommendations

For more information, please contact:

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