

TERMS OF REFERENCE (TOR)
CONSULTANCY TO SUPPORT THE DEVELOPMENT OF A TRANS NZOIA
COUNTY AGROECOLOGY POLICY

1.0 Introduction

Kenya agriculture and food system is in a challenge of food and nutrition insecurity, land and environmental degradation, biodiversity loss, climate change as well as agri -inputs scarcity. According to the State of Food Security and Nutrition report of 2022, 14 million people were in dire starvation. Similarly, one in five children suffer from stunted growth and 1 in 4 women of reproductive age is anaemic. Just like any other County in Kenya, TransNzoia County is at risk of one form of land degradation or another associated with high-input, resource-intensive production systems, which have caused massive deforestation, water scarcities, soil depletion, and high levels of greenhouse gas emissions and loss of Biodiversity. Poor land management, unsustainable land use change and deforestation are interrelated to the increased climate vulnerability in the county.

TransNzoia County Government, through its Department of Agriculture and Livestock Development, and in collaboration with various partners, is spearheading the formulation of the Agroecology Policy for the county. Agroecology is a comprehensive approach that integrates ecological and social principles into the planning and management of food and farming systems. It blends science, practices, policies, and values to encourage sustainable agriculture by relying on natural processes, minimizing external inputs, promoting closed-loop systems, and emphasizing local knowledge and participatory methods. Transzoia County has recognized the urgency of transitioning towards agroecological practices to achieve food and nutrition security, protect the environment and biodiversity, and combat climate change.

To support the formulation of this Policy, the county is seeking the support of a consultant or consultancy firm.

2.0 Objectives

The primary goal of this consultancy is to guide the development of the Agroecology Policy for Trans Nzoia County. This includes leading the process and collaborating with the Technical Working Group (TWG), composed of experts from various sectors, to justify and synthesize the key issues relevant to the Policy.

3.0 Scope

The consultancy will be undertaken in three distinct phases as outlined below:

Phase 1: Background review and preparation of draft Agroecology Policy (Agroecology expert with knowledge in Policy)

- i. Review and consolidate relevant existing literature and documents on agroecology
- ii. Analyze existing policies and legislations, both national and county, related to agroecology
- iii. Develop a clear scope for the Policy
- iv. Facilitate a visualization of the Policy by stakeholders
- v. Develop an outline and first draft of the agroecology Policy
- vi. Share the draft Policy with the TWG team, get feedback and integrate into the draft policy

Phase 2: Facilitate County stakeholder Participation on the draft Policy -

- i) Presentation of the Draft and subsequent refined Policy to the County Assembly Committee for Agriculture
- ii) Facilitate and document stakeholder consultations and workshops
- iii) Compile inputs from stakeholders
- iv) Review the draft Agroecology Policy based on the stakeholder inputs
- v) Finalize and present the revised draft to the CASSCOM

Phase 3: Validation

- i) Present the draft Policy during the County validation workshop
- ii) Incorporate the inputs from County validation workshop
- iii) Present the final draft to the core Committee, CASSCOM and the County Executive
- iv) Participate in presentation to stakeholders for final approvals

4.0 Methodology

The consultant is expected to propose their own approach and methodology which shall be submitted to the client for approval. The methodology should integrate a desktop review of relevant documents and literature and information from Kenya and across the world, stakeholder consultations, and validation workshops.

5.0 Deliverables

Key deliverables of the consultancy are:

- An inception report outlining the methodology and workplan
- Reports of all meetings and forums
- Reports of the stakeholder consultations
- Draft Agroecology Policy
- Validation workshop report(s)
- Final Agroecology Policy

6.0. Qualifications and Experience

The consultant or firm should have the following qualifications and experience.

- At least a master's degree in a field related to agroecology (organic agriculture, ecology, sustainable agriculture, etc.)
- The consultant **MUST** have proven experience in developing agriculture-related policies
- Demonstrable working experience in policy and act development, including working with multistakeholder platforms, government partners, civil society, the private sector, farmers, academia, and other stakeholders
- Prior experience in and knowledge of agriculture and environment sectors, including sustainable agriculture, (agro)biodiversity, agroecology, nature-based solutions, climate-smart agriculture (CSA), etc., are an added advantage.

6.1. Skills and Competencies

- Ability to work with minimal supervision
- High-level written and oral communication skills
- Must be result-oriented, a team player, exhibiting high levels of enthusiasm, tact, diplomacy, and integrity
- Demonstrate excellent interpersonal and professional skills in interacting with government, civil society, farmers, the private sector, and other development partners.
- Excellent skills in the facilitation of stakeholder engagements/workshops
- Evidence of having undertaken similar assignments (attach two recent works and contact persons)
- Experience in research, strategy and strategy development, management, and programming-related work

7.0. Application process

Interested candidates who meet the above requirements should submit their applications to procurement@pelumkenya.net cc: cdatatranszoiacounty@gmail.com to reach us no later than **13th July 2025** at 5.00 pm. Kenyan time. The application should include.

1. A cover letter outlining how the candidate or firm meets the above qualifications
2. A detailed Curriculum Vitae (CV) or CVs of the lead consultant and other experts in case of a company or consortium
3. Technical and financial proposals for implementing the assignment. The proposal to include the consultant's understanding of the assignment, proposed methodology, work plan, and itemized budget (including consultants' daily rate and all logistics-related costs with a breakdown for each phase)
4. Copies of two similar assignments undertaken in the last 5 years and contacts of the clients
5. Testimony from two (2) previous clients