



PARTICIPATORY ECOLOGICAL LAND USE MANAGEMENT (PELUM) KENYA TERMS OF REFERENCE (TOR) FOR BASELINE EVALUATION FOR THE SECOND PHASE (2022-2026) OF THE ECOLOGICAL ORGANIC AGRICULTURE – INITIATIVE (EOA-I)

1.0 INTRODUCTION

PELUM Kenya wishes to recruit a consultant to undertake a baseline study for its Ecological Organic Agriculture Initiative project in Africa for its second phase of implementation period of 5 years (2022- 2026). The baseline is expected to measure the status of all key indicators against which later progress at output, outcome and impact level will be measured and tracked in target areas.

PELUM Kenya is a member of the greater Participatory Ecological Land Use Management (PELUM) Association in East, Central, and Southern Africa. It is a membership networking organization founded in 1995 which promotes people-driven development towards sustainable land use management. The organization facilitates learning, networking, and advocacy on sustainable natural resource management for improved livelihoods. Membership which is drawn from Non-Governmental Organizations, Faith-Based Organizations, Community Based Organizations, and Civil Societies currently stands at 61 organizations. The network has been organized into four (4) networking zones where members in each zone work closely to promote networking and jointly implement projects and influence policies within their counties of operation. PELUM Kenya is the Regional Secretariat for the AU led Ecological Organic Agriculture Initiative (EOA-I) in the Eastern Africa Region.

Ecological Organic Agriculture Initiative is an African led initiative aimed at promoting organic farming in Africa. This was in response to the African Heads of State Decision EX.CL/Dec.621 (XVII) on organic farming made at the conference of Ministers of Agriculture held in Lilongwe, Malawi in 2011. The initiative is a holistic system meant to sustain the health of the ecosystems and relies on functional cycles adapted to local conditions rather than the use of synthetic inputs which have adverse effects on human, animals, plants and environment. The Initiative is being implemented in interrelated pillars that complement each other in addressing different facets of ecological organic farming with the aim of eventually rolling out to the entire African continent through the Comprehensive African Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) under the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD).

The overall goal of Ecological Organic Agriculture is to mainstream EOA into the National Agricultural systems, policies and programs by the year 2025 so as to improve agricultural productivity, food security and access to markets and sustainable development in Africa. The initiative is being implemented in nine countries namely: Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania

and Rwanda in Eastern Africa and Benin, Mali, Nigeria and Senegal in West Africa. The initiative works through six interrelated pillars implemented by various partners within the implementing countries. These are: (a) Research, Training and Extension; (b) Information and Communication; (c) Value Chain and Market Development; (d) Networking and Partnerships; (e) Policy and Programme Development; and (f) Institutional Capacity Development. The initiative is supported by the African Union Commission, Swedish Society for Nature Conservation (SSNC) and the Swiss Agency for Development Cooperation (SDC). PELUM Kenya is the executing agency for SSNC support in Kenya and Ethiopia. Phase 1 of the programme supported by SSNC ended in 2021 and the second phase is currently on for the next five years (2022-2026).

2.0 PURPOSE OF THE STUDY

The baseline is expected to measure the status of all key indicators against which later progress at output, outcome and impact level will be measured and tracked in target areas.

2.1 THE STUDY SCOPE

The study will be conducted in Kenya and Ethiopia. The entire assignment should take 45 working days including planning, data collection and analysis as well as submission of final report and other deliverables related to this assignment. Specifically, the consultancy will undertake the following tasks:

- Asses the level of mainstreaming ecological organic agriculture practices and technologies into the national agricultural systems in all EOA implementing Countries;
- Assess status of specific aspects related to EOA application in the participating countries: farmers' knowledge, attitudes and uptake of EOA practices and/or technologies; organic products (certified and non-certified); gender equality and access by the youth and other vulnerable groups;
- To determine the level of information and knowledge needed by EOA value chain actors in the two countries
- Assess the extent of adoption of EOA technologies and practices through systematic dissemination of research and experience-based information, knowledge and training of value chain actors,
- Determine the share of quality organic products at local, national, regional and international markets;
- To assess status of advocacy and implementation strategies at the and national and regional level by implementing partners (CLOs and PIPs) and the Regional Secretariat.
- Identify current strengths and gaps of the EOA management and governance structures.
- Assess the role and the status of the Regional Secretariat in spearheading the EOA-I agenda in the region.
- Assess the status of networking and partnership among different stakeholders in the organic sector.

2.2 METHODOLOGY

The consultant will develop a comprehensive study methodology that will be reviewed by PELUM Kenya Evaluation Review Team (ERT) during an inception phase. The Consultant will develop a methodology in consideration of the information outlined in the ToRs to ensure accuracy and rigor. The choice of method must adhere to measurement of variables under the study scope; and should answer all key study questions.

2.3 EXPECTED DELIVERABLES/OUTPUTS

1. Inception Report: includes initial work plan and proposal for the baseline assessment outlining the proposed methodology, survey tools, process of data collection and analysis as well as final set of data collection tools for all indicators in the log frame.
2. Draft baseline report;
3. Final baseline survey report. Two (2) hard copies and soft copy of the report.
4. Dataset (excel or SPSS upload) with raw data in soft copy.

2.4. TIME FRAME

It is expected the baseline assessment study should be undertaken and completed within 45 days between from the date of engagement covering the 2 proposed project countries (Kenya and Ethiopia)

3.0. RESPONSIBILITIES OF PELUM KENYA

1. Recruit, select prepare and contract a consultant team.
2. Arrange an inception meeting with consultant team.
3. Review, give feedback and approve the plan, methodology and research report.
4. Introduce the consultant team to the implementing partners to coordinate some fieldwork arrangements.
5. Review the draft report and give feedback to the consultancy team.
6. Approve the final report and plan for a validation meeting.
7. Pay the consultant as per the agreed amount.

3.1. CONSULTANT TEAM

- Study ToR and submit technical and financial proposal to PELUM Kenya.
- Conduct desk review for the secondary sources.
- Design representative survey by using probability sampling techniques.
- Develop the guidance and conduct key informant interviews, focus group discussions and in-depth interview in Kenya and Ethiopia.
- Review and appropriately update the questionnaire and data entry tool.
- Submit the inception report including sampling, materials, detailed research plan.
- Conduct field data collection of survey in a quality manners and other qualitative methods in participatory process.
- Entry, clean and analysis the collected data.
- Write the draft report and present the key findings to PELUM Kenya and stakeholders.
- Submit final research report as specified date in the contract.
- Present the findings in a validation workshop.

3.2. REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

The evaluation will be conducted by a consultant or team of consultants with the team leader and partners having the following main qualifications:

- a) At least one consultant with a master's degree or equivalent in agriculture, sociology, development studies, economics or related social sciences.
- b) At least 5 years of experience in conducting baseline studies, midterm and end-term assessment/evaluations, impact assessments or similar assignments in agricultural development programmes and projects and in evaluation of governance systems.

- c) Demonstrated ability to assess complex situations to analyze critical issues succinctly and clearly and draw conclusions and recommendations.
- d) Proven in-depth understanding and consulting experiences on institutional set-up of complex development programmes.
- e) Knowledge and understanding of agroecology, ecological and organic farming and marketing will be an added advantage.

3.3. HOW TO APPLY

Interested candidates should submit the following:

- a) Technical proposal covering the following components;
 - Their understanding of the assignment based on the TOR
 - Proposed methodology with appropriate data collection tools and data analysis techniques and sample size determination for conducting the assignment
 - Proposed timeframe detailing activities and a work plan
 - Addressing the selection criteria including how the candidate 's previous experience matches the consultancy objectives and their interest for the assignment.
 - Team composition and level of effort of each proposed team member.
- b) Financial proposal showing the total cost of conducting the baseline study,
 - breakdown of consultancy costs (including costing of each member of the team).
 - Man-days for each team member, travel, meals, accommodation and other costs linked to this assignment.
- c) At least a sample report of a similar assignment conducted in the past years.
- d) Detailed curriculum vitae of the consultant(s) to be involved in the assignment, with relevant supporting documents (including detailed work experience, education/degrees, and details of similar assignments)
- e) Names and contacts of three professional references (phone numbers and email).
- f) KRA Pin Certificate

If you believe you are the right candidate for the above consultancy and can clearly demonstrate your ability to meet the indicated qualifications, then submit the above mentioned documents to info@pelumkenya.net with a copy to harrison@pelumkenya.net , matthew@pelumkenya.net and manei@pelumkenya.net. with the subject heading: **Consultancy for Conducting Baseline Study of the Ecological Organic Agriculture Initiative phase II in Kenya and Ethiopia.**

Deadline for Applications is on 1st August 2022. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for further reviews.