



TERMS OF REFERENCE (TORs)

CONSULTANCY TO SUPPORT THE DEVELOPMENT OF A MAKUENI COUNTY AGROECOLOGY POLICY

1.0 Introduction

Makueni County Government, Department of Agriculture and Livestock Development in collaboration with partners, are spearheading the development of Makueni County Agroecology Policy. Agroecology is an integrated approach that simultaneously applies ecological and social concepts and principles to the design and management of food and agricultural systems. It is an overarching concept that encompasses the science, principles, and practices that promote the use of natural processes in agriculture, limit the use of external inputs, promote closed cycles, and stress the importance of local knowledge and participatory processes. Several policies at the national and in Makueni County Policy acknowledge the need to shift our agricultural and food systems to a more agroecological one in a bid to achieve the tripartite goals of attaining food and nutrition security, conserving the environment and biodiversity, and addressing climate change. To facilitate the development of the Agroecology Policy and support the Technical Working Group (TWG), the services of a consultant or firm is required.

2.0 Objectives

The main aim of the consultancy is to develop an Agroecology Policy for Makueni County. This will entail providing leadership and working with the Technical Working Group of multi-sectoral experts in the justification for and the synthesis of the key issues and challenges that form the strategic focus, direction, and interventions for the Policy document.

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 of Policy)

- i. Review and improve the zero draft and provide feedback on the zero draft to the TWG
- ii. Develop a clear scope for the policy
- iii. Facilitate a visualization of the policy by stakeholders
- iv. Share the draft policy with the Technical Working Group, get feedback, and integrate into the draft policy

Phase 2: Facilitate County stakeholder participation in the draft policy - Policy and strategy expert (With Agroecology knowledge)

- i) Facilitate and document stakeholder consultations and workshops
- ii) Review the draft Agroecology policy based on the stakeholder inputs to develop Draft 1.
- iii) Participate in the presentation of Draft 1 to the relevant bodies.

Phase 3: Validation

- i) Present the draft agroecology policy during the County stakeholders' validation workshop
- ii) Present the final draft to the Technical Working Group (TWG).

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 AE policy
- Validation workshop report(s)
- Final AE 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 strategy 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, policy 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 to reach us no later than **19th December 2024 at 5.00 pm** Kenyan time. The application should include.

- A cover letter outlining how the candidate or firm meets the above qualifications
- A detailed Curriculum Vitae (CV) or CVs of the lead consultant and other experts in case of a company or consortium
- 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)
- Copies of two similar assignments undertaken in the last 5 years and contacts of the clients
- Testimony from 2 previous clients/works