

DISCLAIMER

The evaluation methodology described herein is subject to USDA approval and could be amended based on USDA's feedback prior to contracting the third-party evaluator.

The **purpose** of this brief is to describe the objectives and minimum methodological requirements for performance and impact evaluation of the Local and Regional Food Aid Procurement (LRP) program called *Transition d'Alimentation dans les Cantines Scolaires au Senegal (TACSS)*, in Senegal. Also included is a description of the Terms of Reference (ToR) for an experienced, independent third-party firm to conduct the project's baseline study.

BACKGROUND

Counterpart, along with partners NCBA CLUSA, will implement the LRP project for up to three years in Senegal. The program will work to link millet and cowpea producer organizations supported through USDA funded value chain projects with the school feeding programs at the 204 primary schools that will be supported through the McGovern-Dole (MGD) program in the Saint-Louis Region. LRP aims at improved effectiveness of food assistance through local and regional procurement (LRP SO1).

LRP will take over supply of school feeding commodities from McGovern-Dole once schools are deemed ready to begin procuring commodities on their own. Over the course of the project, LRP anticipates linking approximately 270 producer groups with MGD schools through memorandums of understanding between schools and producer groups as well as capacity building.

OBJECTIVES

1. To produce high quality data for these evaluations.
2. To make methodological recommendations for these subsequence evaluations.

METHODOLOGY

The sample frame for the survey will be selected from a list of producer organizations that would have been supported PAFA in the past for Cowpeas, and the Producer Organizations (POs) supported by CLUSA or other USG projects for millet value chain. A sample of these will be drawn using simple random sampling with a confidence level of 95 percent and a margin of error of 5 percent. The expected sample size will be about 200 millet producer organizations and 50 cowpea producer organizations. The awardee will have access to more details about the number, location and characteristics of producer organizations to design the sample.

The consultant will design the methodology including sample size and data collection instruments. Counterpart and partner staff will collect data under the supervision of the consultant.

The consultant will produce a short (<15 page) baseline report summarizing baseline findings and making methodological recommendations. These recommendations will be for updating the baseline on a rolling basis as producer organizations start supplying MGD schools and for the final evaluation.

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Counterpart will engage an experienced, independent third-party firm to conduct the baseline evaluation described in this brief. As specified in US government regulations, the third-party firm will:

- ✓ Be financially and legally separate from Counterpart and partner organizations.
- ✓ Have staff with demonstrated knowledge, analytical capability, language skills and experience in conducting evaluations of development programs involving agriculture, education, and nutrition.
- ✓ Use acceptable analytical frameworks such as comparison with non-project areas, surveys, involvement of stakeholders in the evaluation, and statistical analyses.
- ✓ Use local consultants, as appropriate, to conduct portions of the evaluation.
- ✓ Provide a detailed outline of the evaluation, major tasks, and specific schedules prior to initiating the evaluation.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Bidders should include information which will allow Counterpart to adequately assess the following qualifications:

- A masters or PhD degree in agricultural economics or related field
- Minimum 5 years experience designing and leading quantitative agricultural data collection and analysis in developing countries
- Ability to research and write at a high level;
- Ability to research and conduct interviews with key informants;
- Experience in the usage of computers and office software packages (MS Word, Excel, etc.) and advance knowledge of spreadsheet and database packages.
- Experience working in West Africa with Senegal experience preferred
- French speaker preferred

SUBMISSION

The full Terms of Reference of the TACCS project is pending approval with USDA. Interested third parties will have until **February 25, 2019** to prepare and apply. **The Full RFP will be provided upon request to lrp.rfp@counterpart.org.**

Only electronic submissions will be accepted. All bids with technical and price schedule must be received by **February 25, 2019 at 5:00pm** to lrp.rfp@counterpart.org. Please submit as a Word document (preferred) and/or PDF and include in the subject line “Senegal LRP Baseline Evaluation.”