



TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE STUDY ON UNDERSTANDING THE BUDGET ALLOCATION TO THE ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES (ENR) AND AGRICULTURE SECTORS AT THE NATIONAL AND LOCAL LEVELS IN UGANDA. WHAT ARE THE OPPORTUNITIES AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ADVANCING RESILIENCE TO CLIMATE CHANGE?

Prepare and submit your expression of interest and related technical and financial proposal to Environmental Alert.

P.O. BOX, 11259,

KAMPALA UGANDA

EMAIL: ed@envalert.org

TEL.: 0414510547

This initiative is implemented in collaboration with **CARE International in Uganda** through, '*strengthening resilience and inclusive governance Program*,' with Financial support from **DANIDA** through **Care Denmark**. The programme is being implemented by CARE International in Uganda in partnership with National CSOs partners.



1.0 INTRODUCTION

These are Terms of Reference (ToRs) for the required technical support for conducting a study on resource (financial) allocation in the Environment and Natural Resources (ENR)¹ and Agricultural sectors at national and local levels.

They provide information on the overall objectives of the consultancy assignment, the general methodology, tools and approaches, expected outputs/deliverables and the required qualification and experiences of the consultant.

2.0 BACKGROUND

The agriculture sector, which is mainly subsistence, employs the largest proportion of Uganda's work force. The sector remains a major employer to date, with 68.9 percent of the working population engaged in agriculture contributing about 26% to the GDP in 2015. However, with such a contribution to the gross domestic product, the budget allocations for this sector have been a topical issue. The Government of Uganda has not fully complied with some of the so many critical instruments like the Maputo declaration. The Declaration contains several important decisions regarding agriculture, but prominent among them was the, '*commitment to the allocation of at least 10 percent of national budgetary resources to agriculture and rural development policy implementation,*' (NEPAD, 2003).

The scenario in the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industries and Fisheries (MAAIF) accounts for 3.6% FY 2019/20 - 2023/24 of the national budget and the scenario is not different from the Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE), whose budgetary allocations have stagnated at approximately 3% of the country's budgets for over 10 years. Currently the water and environment sector accounts for 3.0% of the national budget (FY 2019/20) allocations, down from 5% in FY 2018/19 (*National BFP FY 2019/20 - 2023/24*). Inadequate financing of the water and environment sector has had a toll on the governance and management of the Environment and Natural Resources (ENRs) sector thus leading to the deteriorating state of the forest cover, wetland coverage among other key natural resources.

Besides, out of these budget allocations to both the ENR and Agricultural sectors, little is dedicated to investment in the respective sectors target at advancing climate change adaptation and building community resilience to climate change impacts at different scales.

Low financing to both sectors and with the apparent climate change uncertainty and associated impacts in form of prolonged droughts and floods, landslides among others, are likely to make agriculture, environment and natural resources more vulnerable to climate shocks. A heavy dependence on rain-fed agriculture and natural resources means that production is particularly vulnerable to climate variability and change, more especially the occurrence of droughts and floods since it takes an estimated two years to recover from each such drought (NAP- AG 2018).

This has had a huge implication on the sectors and the related overall improved livelihoods, economic growth and development with due consideration that these sectors support a large proportion of the population in respect to livelihoods i.e. natural resources are crucial to the lives of millions of Ugandans, especially the rural poor for all or part of their livelihoods, well-being and survival in the absence of other livelihood assets and opportunities (employment creation, food security and income generation). But also contribute the national revenue base and provisioning of ecosystem services to support operations in other sectors (e.g. water, energy, agriculture, tourism,

¹ In the context of the study ENR refers to water, environment, forestry and weather and climate change.

industry) – especially in the case on the ENR. With the previous and current allocations, within the water and environment sector, the sector continues to be affected grossly. One of the major challenges that were sighted for not achieving the National Development Plan II (NDPII) targets was the inadequate allocations to such critical primary growth sectors. Emerging issues like climate change have also had a toll on the sector which may not be easy to deal with in the short run. CSOs and NGOs have always directed their advocacy engagements towards increased financing to the two sectors mentioned above; however this has not yielded much, thus, the need for a study.

2.1 Justification for the study

Environmental Alert (EA)² is desirous to conducting a study to understand the budgetary trends, basis for allocations as well as the existing gaps within the budgeting processes within the Agricultural and Environment and natural resources sectors. Understanding this will help highlight options for advancing resilience to climate change within the two sectors.

Overtime, the Government of Uganda has been addressing climate variability & change, especially prolonged drought and floods, in dispersed actions (*NAP-AG, 2018*). Much as this has been the case, efforts to increase resilience have been skewed to disaster risk reduction, humanitarian action, preparedness and response actions. Less attention in terms of investment into long-term adaptation to climate resilience has been offered. Adequate financing and investments across sectors (including ENR & Agriculture) is one of the strategies for achieving this. Besides, there information gaps in respect to understanding the budget allocation trends, gaps in planning & budgeting processes, factors/reasons for the current allocations, and underlying emerging opportunities.

Therefore, the information & facts generated from the study will be used as evidence to inform practical alternative recommendations aimed at increased and more dedicated budget allocations in the ENR and Agriculture sectors for contributing towards building community climate change resilience.

This study is implemented within the framework of the project titled, '*Strengthening Resilience and promoting inclusive governance program (STRENPO) for women and youth in vulnerable communities.*' The project is being implemented in partnership with the following partners: *Environmental Alert (EA), Advocates Coalition for Development and Environment (ACODE), Rural Initiative for Community Empowerment (RICE West Nile), and Joint Effort to Save the Environment (JESE).*

Thus, the study results and related emerging policy issues and recommendations will information planning EA led outputs under the project, particularly on structured policy engagements aimed at influencing duty bearer's decisions and actions along the planning and budgeting processes at the national and local levels.

3.0 OBJECTIVES OF THE ASSIGNMENT

Specifically the assignment seeks to:

- i. To conduct analysis of trends in the budget allocations in the ENR and Agriculture sectors at the national and local levels in relation to building climate change resilience;*
- ii. To understand the basis for the budget allocations, the existing gaps within the planning and budgeting processes in respect to advancing climate change resilience in ENR and Agricultural sectors at national and local levels;*

² Further information about EA is available in section 13.0.

- iii. *To inform the policy brief with key emerging issues and practical recommendations for consideration and implementation towards building climate resilience for both ENR and the Agricultural sectors at the national and local levels.*

4.0 METHODOLOGY AND APPROACHES

It is expected that varying participatory methods will be applied in order to maximize participant involvement of the key respondents. Literature review, Gap and Trends analysis, Key informant interviews, Focused Group Discussions among other approaches shall be employed. Any other creative and progressive methods of data collection can be proposed and considered by the consultant. To note is the need for simplicity in making the final report and Policy brief.

4.1 Target and scope for the study

The researcher/ research firm is expected to engage with relevant stakeholders especially from and beyond the project operation districts in Uganda (Arua, Kyenjojo and Kyegegwa) to offer proper representation, and the line ministries, departments, agencies (such as: *Ministry of Water and Environment, Climate Change Department, National Forestry Authority, National Environmental Management Authority, National Metrological Authority, Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries, Ministry of Local Government; Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development; National Planning Authority*), and *Non State actors (i.e. Development Partners, Civil Society Organizations and Private Sector)*.

In terms of scope, the study focuses on 2 sectors including the ENR and Agriculture and will consider planning and budgeting processes at both national and local levels. Appropriate sampling techniques must be used to identify a representative sample for the study so that the results and recommendations provide a strong basis for decision making at different levels. Hence, in this case the selected sample will be considered as a case study.

4.2 Expected outputs/Deliverables

- a. *Inception report: detailing methods/approaches and tools which will be applied for the study;*
- b. *Draft study report;*
- c. *Draft Policy brief;*
- d. *Final study report;*
- e. *Final Policy brief.*

5.0 TIMEFRAME

The assignment is planned to be undertaken mainly in the months of March and April 2020. The following are the assignment tasks, related deliverables and proposed timelines is presented in **Table 1**.

Table 1: The assignment tasks, related deliverables and timelines.

| Task | Number of days | Deliverables |
|--|-----------------------|---|
| 1) Development, presentation and submission of inception report to EA. | 1 | <i>Inception report: Outlining details/ process of how the trends analysis will be conducted.</i> |
| <i>Contractual processes</i> | | <i>Contract signed</i> |

| | | |
|--|-----------|--|
| 2) Literature review, Gap analysis, Data collection | 6 | |
| 3) Data analysis and synthesis | 2 | <i>Budget Trends analysis; factors/consideration (basis) for resources allocation; existing gaps within budgeting processes in respect to advancing climate change resilience in ENR and Agricultural sectors; Key emerging issues and associated policy recommendations</i> |
| 4) Compilation of study report and policy brief | 4 | <i>Study report and policy brief.</i> |
| 5) Validation of the draft study report and policy brief | 0.5 | <i>Feedback from key stakeholders integrated into the final study report and policy brief</i> |
| 6) Compilation of Final report and Policy brief. | 0.5 | <i>Draft report and policy brief.</i> |
| 7) Submission of Final reports | 1 | <i>Final study report and policy brief.</i> |
| Total | 15 | |

7.0. Correspondence

All contractual and implementation correspondences will be addressed to Dr. Joshua Zake (Ph.D), Environmental Alert, P.O. Box 11259 Kampala – Uganda, Email: ed@envalert.org or joszake@gmail.com

8.0 Qualifications and required competencies for the consultant

EA is looking for a consultant with the following skills and competencies

- a) *Bachelor's degree a relevant academic background in agricultural, environment and natural resources economics;*
- b) *Master's degree is an added advantage*
- c) *Knowledge of planning and budget cycles for the agricultural, environment and natural resources sectors in Uganda – at the national and local levels;*
- d) *Knowledge and experience in Budget tracking and monitoring, lobbying and advocacy;*
- e) *Demonstrated experience in carrying out similar assignments;*
- f) *Extensive work experience and proven record in Capacity development, advocacy, Organizational/institutional developments and strategic management;*
- g) *Strong analytical and excellent writing and reporting skills;*
- h) *Ability to work efficiently and deliver on committed outputs under the assignment within agreed timelines and deadlines.*

9.0 Role of Environmental Alert

- a) *Procurement, commissioning and supervision of the consultants;*
- b) *Meet obligations in terms of compensation to the consultants;*
- c) *Provide the necessary information available at Environmental Alert about Network members;*
- d) *Meet all logistical costs for the consultative and validation workshops;*
- e) *Provide transport, communication and other logistics necessary for the assignment as will be agreed.*

10.0 Payments

The consultant/s will be paid professional fees as compensation for his/her technical/professional expertise and time invested in the delivery of the expected outputs. This will be discussed and agreed amicably for a win-win for both the consultant and Environmental Alert.

Notable is that the Consultant will be responsible for declaration of the income for income tax purposes and where applicable, *EA will make 6% statutory deductions (from the gross payment) payable to Uganda Revenue Authority as withholding tax in accordance with the income tax regulations of Uganda. Furthermore, a 10% of the total professional fees as contribution to Environmental Alert Management fees.*

11.0 Contractual conditions

- a. The Consultants shall be persons of high integrity and competence in delivery of the task outputs at hand for the period required.
- b. Except with prior agreement with EA, the Consultants shall not publicize or make public through media or in private any (part) of the raw or finished material, recommendations or information provided within the framework of this contract.
- c. All reference materials belonging to EA that the Consultants may have in possession by virtue of the contract shall be surrendered to EA at the end of the contract.
- d. In case of conflict arising from the implementation or execution of this contract, the parties agree to do their best to avoid legal action, but shall seek arbitration from a third party acceptable to both parties under the laws of Uganda.

12.0 Application process

Applicants should submit both their technical and financial proposals in soft and hard copies and addressed to the Executive Director, Environmental Alert P.O. Box 11259, Kampala, Uganda. Or email to ed@envalert.org with a copy to po.cnc@envalert.org or hand deliver to Plot 3, Sonko Lane, Kabalagala (off Gaba Road).

Applications should be delivered to the above address not later than **17th March 2020**. **For more information contact:** Dr. Joshua Zake (Ph.D) on email: ed@envalert.org or po.cnc@envalert.org

13.0 About Environmental Alert

Environmental Alert (EA) was founded in **1988** and has developed and transitioned into a National Non-Governmental organization contributing to an enabling policy environment for sustainable agriculture and sound environment and natural resources management at community, local, national and international levels. EA is officially registered with the NGO Board as a Ugandan non-governmental organization (NGO), incorporated as a company limited by guarantee. EA is governed by an Independent Board that is responsible for providing strategic oversight of the organization including ensuring its integrity as a voluntary service organization.

EA is a 1st prize winner of the Energy Globe Award for environmental sustainability-2005 under the category, earth.

EA is a member of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and a Member of The IUCN National Committee for Uganda.

EA envisions, *'Resilient and dignified communities, managing their environment and natural resources sustainably.'*

EA's Mission is to, 'Contribute to improved livelihoods of vulnerable communities by enhancing agricultural productivity and sustainable natural resources management'

Program and institutional Components:

1. Environment and Natural resources management;
2. Food security and Nutrition;
3. Water, Sanitation and Hygiene;
4. Finance and Administration;
5. Resource mobilization and Investment.

Scale of Implementation:

EA operates in selected districts for generation of evidence to inform policy engagements on agriculture, environment and natural resources at National and International levels. Currently EA's operations are in 20 districts across the country. EA undertakes area wide targeted awareness on selected issues in agriculture, environment and natural resources engagements

EA is a Secretariat for following networks:

- a) The Network for Civil Society Organizations in Environment & Natural Resources Sector (ENR-CSO Network) - <http://enr-cso.org/>;
- b) Uganda Forestry Working Group - <http://ufwg.entalert.org/>;
- c) The Standards Development Group (for promotion of Sustainable Forest Management in Uganda); and
- d) Promoting Local Innovation in ecologically oriented agriculture and natural resources management (PROLINNOVA-Uganda Network) - <http://www.prolinnova.net/uganda>;
- e) The Renewable Energy CSO Network.

Further information about Environmental Alert is available at: <http://entalert.org/>