



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS
Terms of Reference for Consultant/PSA

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| Name: | |
| Job Title: National Consultant – Guideline development | |
| Division/Department: FAO Vietnam Programme | |
| Programme/Project Number: UNJP/VIE/054/UNJ – (Enhancing NAMA Readiness in Viet Nam) | |
| Location: Vietnam, Hanoi and relevant provinces | |
| Expected Start Date of Assignment: | Duration: 06 months |
| Reports to: Name: TBD | Title: FAO VN Programme Officer |

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF TASK(S) AND OBJECTIVES TO BE ACHIEVED

Background

Viet Nam has urgent needs to develop greenhouse gas (GHG) mitigation options from agriculture sector as communicated through the biannual National Communications to the UNFCCC. In preparation of suitable mitigation options, the Government of Viet Nam has approved “Plan of GHG emissions management” through the Decision No. 1775/QĐ-TTg 21 November 2012 where the development of NAMA framework is considered a key step for such management. However, the capacity to streamline and implement readily applicable emission-reduction pathways that enable the country to successfully balance socio-economic development targets with reduction in GHGs emission targets is currently limited.

Agriculture not only suffers from the impacts of climate change such as reduction of productivity and high level of food insecurity. The agricultural sector is also responsible for 43 per cent of national GHG emissions in Viet Nam in the year of 2000 (SNC, 2010). But agriculture has the potential to be an important part of the solution, through reducing a significant amount of the emissions. As an increasingly industrialized food producing country, alternative systems that convert excess agricultural by-products into food, energy, and fertilisers such as household biogas and nutrient-rich biogas slurry for smallholder farmers are proposed in Viet Nam. These systems potentially represent lower carbon pathways than business as usual and are known as “integrated food-energy systems” (IFES). While the scaling up of such integrated farming systems combined with biogas technologies or agroforestry systems are a potential low-emission pathway, it needs to be determined whether they are sustainable in environmental, economic and social aspects, and whether an enabling environment exists to facilitate their replication and large-scale dissemination.

Due to the large potential of IFES to reduce GHG emissions while ensuring food security, these systems have been suggested as a pilot case to exercise the development of an agricultural NAMA in Viet Nam. A significant progress has been made with the development of relevant IFES in Viet Nam in the past decades however, an overarching framework that ensures both food security and low carbon pathway of the country is still missing: more diversified mitigation options from sub-sectors and scale of economy are still a challenge to success. Besides household and commercial manure treatment systems, emissions from crop production within the wide variety of Viet Nam specific IFES cases, those that are based on wetland rice cultivation is of particular importance to Viet Nam due to its large contribution driven by methane emission. . And the socio-economic benefits of IFES on livelihood, climate change and other direct environmental benefits need to be fully recognized among farmers, national experts, and policy makers of Viet Nam.

Analytical methodologies need to be urgently applied to define current and potential IFES pathways that minimise inefficiencies and thereby form the basis for an agricultural NAMA. Policy makers and national experts have to be trained in these analytical methodologies, and most importantly, government policy has to be promoted to encourage both industrial producers and smallholders to actively participate in the sustained application of lower carbon emission pathways of food and energy production.

Objectives of the Project

The goal of this project is to support 'climate-smart' agriculture through Integrated Food-Energy Systems (IFES) and to improve the national capacity for planning and implementing agriculture NAMAs in Viet Nam.

This project will contribute outcome that the national capacity will be developed to enable the adoption of NAMA from agricultural production practices using IFES as a pilot with a focus on integrated crop-livestock systems and renewable energy options. On impact level, the project outcomes may positively influence in reducing fossil fuel based energy and fertilizer use in the lowlands of Viet Nam, while, at the same time, sustainably increasing agricultural productivity and improving the resilience of smallholder farming systems to climate change and variability.

This project will contribute following outputs: (i) policy guidelines for building NAMA systems in agriculture sector of Viet Nam; (ii) improved technical capacity of national experts for data collection on GHG emissions, modelling of emission factors and interpretation to define mitigation options in agricultural sector; (iii) increased capacity of national policymakers to design and implement climate smart agriculture policies and; (v) increased readiness of national policymakers to develop policies that promote and support the NAMA implementation and so contribute to international initiatives to combat climate change.

Scope of service

Overall task: Support for research, analysis, and guidelines components of the project. The national consultant will contribute to successful implementation of the Output 1 with attention to, but not limited to the following project activities:

A1: Identify past and current IFES initiatives in Vietnam

- Stocktaking of literature, policy, and context information
- Customization of the Analytical Framework for the particular conditions in Vietnam
- Key informant interviews
- field visit for verification of information

A3: Using carbon balance tools identify low carbon pathway options from IFES in Vietnam

- Assess carbon balance of ante-ex and post scenario of IFES options using EX-ACT
- Create projections to identify low carbon pathway options

A4: Develop a set of criteria for national guideline for IFES NAMA

- Develop and adjust an IFES analytical framework
- develop framework and indicators for IFES NAMA in Vietnam
- Develop sample questionnaires and household survey guideline for IFES NAMA using both quantitative and qualitative methodologies
- validate the framework with attached indicators and questionnaires by experts

A5: Develop a national guideline for IFES NAMA for low carbon pathway options for IFES in Vietnam

- organize a stakeholder consultation meeting to validate frameworks and guidelines
- document policy supervision and inputs from stakeholders and national experts
- finalize a policy guideline for low carbon pathway options for IFES in Vietnam
- submit to MARD for endorsement of the minister

Core tasks include:

Under the overall supervision of the national project director, the part-time national project coordinator will undertake the following activities:

- Write a synthesis report covering a stocktaking of existing IFES, the issues of sustainability & replicability of IFES, emissions pathways, and policy recommendations;
- Design and conduct a field survey if necessary;
- Develop an IFES NAMA national guideline taking into account all relevant stakeholder feedback;
- Support for guideline dissemination (including trainings);
- Support for technical contents of the stakeholder consultation meeting for validation of guideline;

Reporting

The coordination & operation assistant will directly report to the national project director.

Qualifications/selecting criteria

- Proven track of professional experience in writing technical and/or policy guidelines in Vietnam;
- Strong analytical skills and experience in agricultural research;
- Knowledge of social science methods in agricultural and rural development
- Good knowledge and proven experience on policy issues in climate change, integrated farming systems, rural development, and bioenergy;
- Excellent communication skills, ability to write a succinct yet comprehensive policy guidelines, and ability to communicate with diverse high level stakeholders;
- Experience in training of trainers on specific guidelines;
- Past work experience liaison with the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development is a plus;
- Strong coordination and time & project management skills;
- Current knowledge of Climate Smart Agriculture is a plus;
- Ability to work under tight deadlines and to handle multi-tasking;
- Computer literacy especially in the use of Microsoft Office software;
- Strong competency in (verbal and written) English and Vietnamese;
- Advanced university degree (Masters or PhD) in relevant field;
- Must be Vietnamese national.

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Expected Outputs: stated below.

Required Completion Date:

15 December 2014 (with a possibility of extension)

- Synthesis report including stocktaking, sustainability & replicability, emissions pathway, and policy recommendations produced;
- National guideline for IFES NAMA completed;
- Guideline dissemination (including trainings) completed;
- Stakeholder consultation for validation of guideline conducted;
- National guideline for IFES NAMA is submitted to the management of MARD.