

CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Team Members

Evaluation of the CGIAR Research Program on
Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security
(CCAFS)

Nov 2014



Independent
Evaluation
Arrangement

Background to the evaluation

In the CGIAR agricultural research for development is implemented by 15 research Centers and their partners through CGIAR Research Programs (CRPs). The Strategy and Results Framework (SRF), approved in 2011, determines the CGIAR's comparative advantage in the context of international agricultural research and sets four high-level goals for the CGIAR research in the CRPs, termed System-Level Outcomes: reduction of rural poverty, increase in food security, improving nutrition and health, and more sustainable management of natural resources.

The Independent Evaluation Arrangement (IEA) of the CGIAR is responsible for external evaluations of the CRPs. One of the CRPs to be evaluated in 2015 is the CRP on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS).

The CRP on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security

CCAFS, approved in 2011 as a CGIAR Research Program, started as a CGIAR Challenge Program (CP) that was launched in 2009 for a ten-year period as a collaborative endeavour between the international agricultural (CGIAR) and global environmental change research communities, and their respective partners. CCAFS aims to address the increasing challenge of global warming and declining food security on agricultural practices, policies and measures. The program is implemented in strategic collaboration between CGIAR and Future Earth and the 15 research centers who are members of the CGIAR in collaboration with hundreds of partner organizations.

The CCAFS goal is to promote a food-secure world through the provision of science-based efforts that support sustainable agriculture and enhance livelihoods while adapting to climate change and conserving natural resources and environmental services. In its theory of change emphasis is put on strategic partnerships, capacity building, communication, open access data, real time monitoring and evaluation and a strong focus on gender.

CCAFS has operated around four Themes: 1. Adaptation to progressive climate change; 2. Adaptation through managing climate risk; 3. Pro-poor climate change mitigation; and 4. Integration

CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST – CCAFS Evaluation

for decision making. CCAFS targets five regions which all have different research priorities and types of activities: West Africa, East Africa, South Asia, Latin America and South East Asia. The initially approved budget for 2011-15 was USD 392.6 million.

For further information on CCAFS, please see: <http://ccafs.cgiar.org/>

Evaluation purpose and scope

The primary purpose of this evaluation is to enhance the contribution that CCAFS is likely to make towards reaching the CGIAR goals and improving food security under changing climatic conditions including rising temperatures, increasing occurrence of drought and extreme weather events and changing agroecologies. The evaluation will provide essential evaluative information for decision-making by Program management and its funders on issues such as extension, expansion and structuring of the program and adjustments in some aspects of the program.

The evaluation will focus both on programmatic and organizational performance. It will be both summative and formative. The summative dimension will cover past research to determine the extent to which results at outcome and impact level have been achieved since activities begun as a CP, and looking at results emerging from the current program. The **formative** component will focus on the design, implementation and performance of the CRP since 2011 and its likely effectiveness.

Evaluation timing

The evaluation is scheduled to take place between January and November 2015. A preparatory phase will commence with the appointment of a team leader in 2014. The evaluation will consist of inception phase (January-February), inquiry phase (March-July) and report writing phase (August-October).

Team Members Profile

The IEA Office is looking for **3-4 team members** who will be responsible for covering specific aspects of the evaluation and who will contribute to the overall assessment of the program. The Team Members will work under the supervision of the Team Leader, who has already been recruited.

The Team Members' tasks will include:

- Contribute to the inception report;
- Collect, review and analyse relevant materials with support provided by the IEA, particularly regarding the assigned areas of responsibility
- Support the Team Leaders in designing evaluation instruments
- Conduct interviews with CGIAR and non CGIAR informants by phone or Skype

CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST – CCAFS Evaluation

- Conduct research site visits (as decided during inception phase) and face to face interviews with program staff, partners and beneficiaries;
- Contribute to team discussions and analysis of overall CCAFS performance
- Participate in formulating preliminary evaluation findings
- Contribute to the drafting of the Evaluation Report under the guidance of the Team Leader

The assignment of each Team Member will be for **approximately 50 working days**, including travel and work at home-station, spread over a period of 11 months from start of the evaluation.

The tentative stages for a CRP evaluation with estimated time requirement are as follows:

- An inception phase (10 days) with the objective of defining the scope of the evaluation, clarifying the analytical frameworks, developing the methodological tools; preparation of an inception report;
- Collection and analysis of information (30 days) including center visits and field travel;
- Report drafting (10 days).

Subject level expertise of Team Members

The Team Members will have an excellent understanding and knowledge of one or more of the research issues and international debate on following areas:

- Food security in the context of climate change
- Policy issues related to agriculture in the context of climate change mitigation
- Climate information services, modelling and big data management.
- Partnership with national research systems and research effectiveness
- Gender and equity

The Team Leader will provide specialist knowledge on smallholder agriculture, climate adaptation, M+E and impact assessment.

Qualifications of the Team Members

- Knowledge of the issues, programs and policies related to climate change in the context of developing country agriculture;
- Strong academic background and experience in an area relevant to CCAFS
- Experience in developing country agriculture;
- Good knowledge of the main international institutions and mechanisms involved in the areas of research and development that are focus of the CRP to be evaluated;
- Excellent writing skills in English and good verbal communication skills
- The ability to speak French will be looked for in at least one team member.

The scope and depth of the team members' contributions will be decided during the Inception phase and the division of responsibilities among the Team Members will be refined at the first team meeting, planned to take place early 2015.

Application

Interested persons should send their CV by **3 December 2014**, to Sophie Zimm, Evaluation Analyst at the IEA: sophie.zimm@fao.org and in a short cover letter outline their most relevant experience for this position.