



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Terms of Reference for Consultant Category B *

Name:	XXX	
Job Title**:	Survey methodologist	
Division/Department:	ESS	
Programme/Project Number:	GCP/GLO/677/USA	
Duty Station:	Rome, Italy	
Expected Start Date of Assignment:	As soon as possible	Duration: 6 months – extendable
Reports to: Name:	Flavio Bollinger	Title: Senior Statistician

* Please note: If this TOR is for Consultant / PSA.SBS contract, the minimum relevant experience required **for the assignment** is as follows:
1 year for a category C 5 years for a category B 12 years for a category A

** Please enter a short title (max 25 chars) for this assignment.

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

Background

Agricultural Integrated Survey (AGRIS) is a farm-based modular survey model that operates over a 10-year cycle; it includes a core module on production collected on yearly basis and rotating thematic modules that are collected periodically. In 2016, the FAO Statistics Division (ESS) has started implementing the AGRIS model at national level, through the AGRISurvey programme. This programme aims to support agricultural data collection efforts of National Statistical Offices (NSOs), Ministries of Agriculture (MoA) and other relevant stakeholders and data users. The initiative responds to the demand for more and higher quality agricultural data, in view of fostering evidence-based decision-making and national level, and countries' ability to monitor the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) indicators, particularly those related to agriculture.

Starting from the AGRIS model proposed by the *Global Strategy for Improving Agricultural and Rural Statistics* (GSARS), the AGRISurvey programme supports the enhancement of existing statistical data collection systems on agriculture, in view of developing a customized set of integrated and cost-effective agricultural surveys. National stakeholders are called upon playing key roles in establishing information needs, in customizing and implementing the AGRIS model. They are required to contribute financial resources, and to increase funding over time, with the expectation to fully take over funding at the end of the implementation of the project.

USAID and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) provide funds to the AGRISurvey programme for the implementation of AGRIS surveys. In particular, USAID supports the AGRISurvey programme in four pilot countries to achieve the following goals: i) produce and use better and comparable statistical data on agriculture employing the AGRIS survey model and ii) accelerate efforts to strengthen national capacities, ownership and financial autonomy of the national agricultural statistical system.

The incumbent will provide direct input to the AGRISurvey programme. The incumbent will work under the supervision of the Senior Statistician and Team Leader of the Survey Team. S/he will work in close collaboration with the other team members, relevant ESS Staff, the concerned Government counterparts, and the members of the GRAInS Partnership.

Key Tasks / Functions

Tasks / functions will be highly specialized and will cover one or several of the tasks / functions listed below:

1. Provide methodological, technical, statistical, and analytical services and backstop for the implementation of AGRISurveys, including the adoption of Computer Assisted Personal Interviews (CAPI) methods

2. Participate in the development of improved survey methodologies; design and conduct research to support the enhancement of survey standards and instruments
3. Process and analyze available microdata from AGRISurveys and other relevant surveys
4. Draft technical reports on different themes concerning the AGRISurvey
5. Contribute to capacity development activities, such as training workshops, seminars, meetings, on-line tools and information kits
6. Present key results and promotes knowledge sharing and best practices at international meetings and conferences and stakeholder consultations
7. Promote institutional collaboration, advocate for best practices, and increased policy dialogue, and provide technical expertise at national meetings, workshops, and conferences
8. Contribute to the follow-up and monitoring of work plans in the target countries
9. Perform other tasks relevant to the AGRISurvey programme.

Minimum Requirements

- Advanced University degree in statistics, agricultural economics, economics, or related field
- At least five years of relevant experience with developing countries in: data collection, dissemination and use of agricultural data in national or international organizations (ie., questionnaire, survey design, implementation)
- Working knowledge of English and limited knowledge of French or Spanish

Competencies

- Results focus
- Team Work
- Communication
- Building effective relationships
- Knowledge sharing and continuous improvement

Technical/Functional Skills

- Extent and relevance of knowledge and experience in methodological research applied to agricultural statistics
- Extent and relevance of knowledge and experience in designing and implementing agricultural surveys (at farm level)
- Extent and relevance of knowledge and experience in designing and delivering capacity development programmes at country level, including technical assistance

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Expected Output:

Research, analysis and technical assistance for the design and implementation of AGRISurvey is provided in at least 2 countries. In particular:

1. Customized questionnaires based on the AGRISurvey principles
2. Sampling strategies for AGRISurveys
3. Survey databases from AGRISurveys
4. Tables and technical reports from AGRISurveys
5. Progress reports