

CALL FOR PROPOSAL

Technical consultancy for Food Security Project

Provision of agriculture services to improve food availability for the most vulnerable population in the catchment areas of the Lebanese Association of the Knights of Malta primary health care centers.

Project Period	1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022
Title of the project	Improving Food Availability and Maintaining Agriculture systems for Vulnerable Lebanese Communities
Implementer Partner	Lebanese Association of The knights of Malta (LAKM)
Reference	LDC001/2021

I. Introduction

Lebanon is facing multiple overlapping shocks threatening the ability of the most vulnerable to access their basic needs in particular health and food. Since October 2019, poverty and food insecurity have risen to an alarming level and are expected to lead to security problems if not properly addressed at the short and long terms. Civil unrest due to discontent over state governance, the outbreak of COVID-19 (Feb 2020) and its containment measures, the financial crisis imposing an informal capital control and a restricted financial flow which both devaluated the local currency (around 85%), in addition to lately the explosion of Beirut Port have raised concerns over exacerbating socio-economic challenges preventing the state and non-state civil actors from answering the needs of the most vulnerable.

The overlapping crises pushed 55% of the Lebanese to live below the upper poverty line and 23% of the population is classified extremely poor. Statistics revealed that around 50% of the population in Lebanon (including refugees) will be at risk of failing to access basic food needs by end of 2020 and that household food expenditure share is expected to be more than 85% for the most vulnerable. The average price of food products has increased by more than 140% during one year.

To respond to the food crisis, LAKM initiated an agriculture program in 2020. The program targets the most vulnerable (small farmers and producers) through the improvement of food availability in the catchment areas of its primary healthcare centers.

The LDC food security project supports targeted farmers to plant summer and winter crops in order to increase food availability surrounding LAKM primary health care centers and access to employment by jobs created in the agriculture sector through activities associated with the project (planting, weeding, harvesting, etc.).

Project Objective:

The project aims to improve food availability and supports vulnerable Lebanese farmers to maintain their agriculture systems and increase their agriculture income through the provision of necessary agriculture inputs and skills

Outputs:

- Increase availability of nutritious food in the catchment areas of LAKM primary healthcare centers
- 300 farmers diversified their production through the provision of agriculture inputs over 2 seasons
- 300 farmers improved their skills through tailored extension services

II. Objective of the consultancy

To deliver the main expected outputs, LAKM is requesting professional advisory services to technically guide the implementation of the agriculture field work of the LDC food security project across LAKM PHCs in Lebanon

III. Methodology

LAKM is requesting the service provider to perform field activities through the following steps:

- Inception phase to understand the agro-ecological context and PHCs location
- Based on the agro-ecological conditions, design the distribution of assets
- Conduct outreach to 300 producers distributed across specific LAKM centers (in North, Bekaa, and South). Vulnerability assessment should be used to selected the most vulnerable
- Support in setting the request for quotations to procure the assets when needed
- Collect baseline data on the 300 producers to measure the project performance indicators
- Organize the distribution of assets to the 300 producers across two season (summer and winter)
- Ensure the proper use of assets (plantation of seeds, plantation of seedlings, etc.)
- Provide necessary technical assistance to producers (1500 field visits across 2 seasons)
- Conduct a final representative assessment to capture the performance indicators

IV. Planning

This consultancy shall start as soon as service contract is signed and ends by March 31st, 2022 in order to follow-up on both production seasons (summer and winter).

V. Deliverables

- Design of the distribution of assets across PHCs catchment areas
- Conduct vulnerability assessment to select 300 vulnerable farmers (20% women) (around 450 vulnerability assessment are envisaged to select 300 farmers)
- Baseline report showing data on the 300 farmers
- Consent signed with the 300 farmers on the assets received
- 1500 field visit signed report

VI. Minimum requirements

- A registered company specialized in agriculture services in Lebanon
- The company should have on board at least 2 dedicated agriculture engineers to follow-up on the services required
- Experience in working across Lebanon in outreach and improving food availability
- Technical experience in designing the specifications of various assets
- Technical experience in providing extension services
- Experience in providing capacity building
- Experience in working with refugees to avoid protection risks
- Available to start directly after contract signature
- Fluency in English (written and spoken)

VII. Quotation submission, Duration of contract & payment

The selected Service provider will be contracted for 1 year after the contract is awarded. Payment will be made in accordance with the following schedule:

- 20% upon signature
- 15% upon delivery of baseline report of 300 farmers
- 15% upon delivery of assets to farmers for summer season
- 15% upon completion of 750 extension visits
- 15% upon delivery of assets to farmers for winter season
- 20% upon final report (impact and recommendation)

VIII. Tender and evaluation management

Quotation must include:

- An application describing the methodological approach (in case of discrepancy compared to the proposed methodology), a work plan and timetable is expected
- CVs and details of previous work experience on similar consultancy
- Financial proposal



- Indication of the date from which the consultant will be available

Quotation should be submitted:

In **two separate sealed envelopes** (one for technical proposal & one financial proposal), before the deadline date and time, **March 26, 2021 at 12.00pm** and delivered by hand against a receipt to the following address:

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