Terms of Reference
Climate-Smart Agriculture (CSA) Country Profiles

National consultant for The Kingdom of Thailand

Background

The International Center for Tropical Agriculture (www.ciat.cgiar.org) works to reduce hunger and poverty, and improve human nutrition in the tropics through research aimed at increasing the eco-efficiency of agriculture. The Center's research focuses on increasing productivity of key crops (cassava, common bean, rice, and tropical forages); reversing soil and land degradation; and using information to foster better decisions about issues such as climate change and environmental management. The Decision and Policy Analysis (DAPA) group is a growing research area of CIAT that works towards CIAT's mission of eco-efficient agriculture for the tropics by ensuring improved decision making by a range of stakeholders on key issues such as climate change, linking farmers to markets and ecosystem services. See https://ciat.cgiar.org/about/research-areas/ for more details on research areas.

Rising food demand in a world confronted with the impacts of climate change means that agricultural solutions need to address food and nutrition security simultaneously with climate change adaptation and mitigation. Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) practices are those that embody these double and triple wins. CSA seeks to increase productivity in an environmentally and socially sustainable way, strengthening farmers' resilience to climate change, and reducing agriculture's contribution to climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions and increasing carbon storage in farmland. Mainstreaming CSA requires policies and institutions that foster adoption, provide incentives for action, and minimize barriers and constraints. Identifying how to maximize impact of CSA investment starts with understanding the current institutional frameworks associated with CSA, assessing CSA actions already underway, and identifying critical future CSA initiatives.

With support from the World Bank, USAID, FAO and other partners, CIAT's DAPA has been developing Climate-Smart Agriculture Country Profiles (CSA-CP) for multiple countries around the world (Africa, Asia, Europe, and Latin America and the Caribbean) in the past three years, with the aim to advance knowledge and mainstream CSA into science and policy. The CSA-CP assesses policies and practices related to CSA in a given country, specifically identifying enabling environments and barriers for mainstreaming adoption of CSA, as well as ongoing and potential CSA activities and avenues for financing uptake of practices in each country. The demand for CSA-CPs has increased significantly, with donors and governments around the world soliciting CIAT to conduct the CSA baseline assessment in their country(s) of interest.

The Consultancy

The International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT) is seeking the technical services of a National Consultant to conduct a comprehensive Climate Smart Agriculture Country Profile for **The Kingdom of Thailand.**

The consultant will contribute to gather and analyze country-specific information on the implications and potential of climate smart agriculture in **The Kingdom of Thailand**, in order to fill knowledge gaps and provide a platform for informed action at the country level. This will be done in the format of a Country Profile, a brief document detailing CSA activities, enabling environment at national and sub-national levels and funding avenues.

The consultancy will unfold into three key phases, representing:

1. **Preparation** in close collaboration with the project leaders and CIAT team. The main aim of this phase is to introduce into the CSA-CP methodology and team dynamic, which will allow to be familiar with the CSA-CP concept, structure and information. Consultant will have access to relevant online/ digital material on shared folders.

2. **Stakeholder engagement:** The consultant will identify and reach out to the main stakeholders for the study, including key decision and policy makers (Country government officials at the MoAC, MoNRE and their relevant departments), technical experts (extension officers in agriculture, environment, and/or climate change areas), farmers' association representatives, academics (universities and research centers), private sector actors (ag companies, NGOs, grassroots organizations), and donor and cooperation sector (national and international). The objective will be to engage agricultural stakeholders about CSA-CP initiative and inform regarding upcoming CIAT work in the country. Invitations and informative material to contacts list prior to meetings is relevant.

   The products of this phase will include:

   - **List of stakeholders' contacts**, disaggregated by name of institution and respective department (if the case), type, name of contact person, contact details (email, phone), form of engagement in the process (survey, interview, focus group, workshop, profile peer review). The template for this contacts list will be provided by CIAT. (min. 30) to be contacted for data collection (workshop 1 and 2, surveys, interviews).
   - **Inception meeting planning and execution** to formally introduce the CIAT team with national relevant stakeholders e.g. FAO/WB country representatives and MoAC officials. This meeting will set the stage to contextualize CIAT, CSA-CP and overall working areas, and will contribute to identify key priorities at national level in terms of potential AEZs/analysis regions, productions systems (crops & livestock), CSA practices and their alignment with MoAC plans and programmes. Guidelines and relevant material will be provided by CIAT.

3. **Data collection, analysis, and facilitation** through literature review, expert interviews, focus groups, and workshops.

In this phase the consultant will initially conduct desktop research / literature review on various national agricultural topics addressed in the CSA-CP, including the following aspects:

a) Confirmation and adjustment of a priority list of 8-10 main production systems in the country key for food security. A preliminary list based on a methodology for production system selection and prioritization facilitated by CIAT will be provided and complemented by interviews with experts and MoAC officers.
b) A long list of CSA practices related to the main production systems identified with at least 5 relevant on-farm and off-farm practices and technologies per production system per two priority AEZ in the country.
c) Initial list of AEZ or regions in the country where the identified production system are important in terms of a) vulnerability to climate change impacts, and b) extended in terms of crop/harvested area and where the practices are implemented

Most data for the Country profile will be collected through **two stakeholder workshops**:

d) **Decision and policy-makers workshop**, to inform about country's policy framework, institutions engaged in CSA at national and local level (if the case), as well as existing and potential financing for CSA in the country
e) **Agricultural experts workshop** to evaluate and validate the previously identified CSA practices in terms of their impacts on CSA indicators (climate smartness) and other contextual variables of the practices (adoption rates and place of application, scale of farmers adopting the practice, barriers to adoption etc.)

Workshops are meant to be one to two-day events each, the days before and after the workshop are required to prepare the material (participant's invitations, accommodation and venue settings, prints, material translation etc.), receive from CIAT team instructions for workshops facilitations carried out in official language/Thai), and digitize and centralize workshop inputs highlighting information gaps for subsequent filling.

The products of this phase will include:

- **Template for key production systems, CSA practices and AEZs fulfilled** based on the information stated in # 3. a, b, c.
- **Agricultural experts workshop** and **Decision and policy-makers workshop** executed
- **Templates with surveys filled out by experts** on priority commodities and discussion areas of the profile. , complemented with desk research. This activity will inform the discussion of key priorities during the *inception meeting*. Additionally will serve as a base for the CSA-CP content development (text and infographics). A minimum number of 5 evaluations per CSA practice per production system and AEZs is required in order to be included in the CSA-CP

draft. The surveys will be complemented by further expert evaluations during the technical expert workshop and vice versa.

- **Master template in Excel/google drive formats** reporting outputs from previous from the phases (Contacts, key production systems, CSA practices, AEAz, information collected from interviews/focus groups and workshops). Template established previously by the technical team. Additional desk research can be request as needed.

4. **CSA-CP continuous feedback.** This phase involves the writing of the CSA Country Profile by CIAT team (is not consultant's duty) taking into account recommendations and comments made by the technical team, national partners, and peer reviewers. The document will be and possibly translated to official languages depending of partners' involvement. The role of the consultant in this process will be to provide general feedback over the document and respond to potential questions in order to ensure that the narratives are of high quality and appropriated to the national context.

Responsibilities:

- Conduct desk research and literature review to collect relevant information on the state of the national agricultural sector, economic effects and projections of climate change impacts, production systems, CSA practices, policies, programmes, strategies, plans and projects available and potential funds for the country.
- Prepare, conduct and facilitate expert interviews, focus groups, and workshops.
- Identify and bridge information gaps in constant communication with local experts and CIAT team.
- Respond to internal and external comments related to the CSA-CP document development in a consistent and timely manner.
- Document findings from the surveys/workshops and report the data into the CSA CP Template following the methodological, formatting and referencing guidelines provided by the CIAT team. The data provided will be in English.
- Give full access to the CIAT team to the data collected.

The consultancy will report to the Project coordinator and the Project leader.

Technical Competencies

- MSc/PhD in agricultural and/or environmental sciences or social science field, with a focus and/or proven interest in agriculture, rural development, and food security topics. Candidates with agricultural sciences background must prove an understanding of social and institutional processes around agriculture sector development.
- Proven understanding of the Climate-Smart Agriculture concept and its applications (work experience in this area is preferred, but not mandatory).
- Excellent writing skills and command of English language, both verbal and written.
- Previous experience in participatory data collection methods (workshops, focus groups).
- Excellent Word and Excel skills and access to Google Docs and Google Drive tools.

Role Competencies

- Proof of outstanding communication skills, to be applied in dialogues with a wide array of actors, such as international organization representatives, members of national governments members, research and private sector representatives, experts, and farmer representatives.
- Ability to work in teams.
- Willingness and ability to work under tight deadlines

Deliverables:

#	Description of deliverable.	Final date for submitting the deliverable
Deliverable 1	1.1 List of stakeholders' contacts 1.2 Template for key production systems, CSA practices and AEZs fulfilled 1.3 Individual surveys	Deliverable 1 by Nov. 2nd week. 2018
Deliverable 2	2.1 Inception meeting planning and execution	Deliverable 1 by Nov 3rd week. 2018
Deliverable 3	Planning and execution 3.1 Agricultural experts workshop 3.2 Decision and policy-makers workshop Delivery of 3.3 Master template in Excel/google drive formats	Deliverable 1 by Nov 3rd-4th week. 2018

Timeline for the CSA-CP development [dates will be agreed with candidate]

Deliverable		Nov Wk1							Nov Wk2							Nov Wk3							Nov Wk4							Dec Wk1							Dec Wk2						
		4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
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Contact:

Applicants are invited to send a one-page cover letter together with a detailed C.V., including names and addresses of three referees knowledgeable about the candidate's professional qualifications and work experience. All correspondence should be addressed to:

Miguel Lizarazo m.lizaraz@cgiar.org and James Giles J.Giles@cgiar.org