

Terms of Reference School Feeding and School Gardens Expert Consultant

Background and Introduction

Comitato Internazionale Per Lo Sviluppo Dei Popoli – CISP (International Committee for the Development of Peoples) is a development organization established in Rome in 1983, to engage against the impact of poverty and denied rights worldwide. In Somalia, CISP has put in place mechanisms to support local communities and authorities to provide quality pre-primary, primary, non formal and vocational education. In both remote rural areas and urban centers, CISP is working to promote equitable access to education, to reduce drop outs (for both boys and girls) and to improve learning outcomes for all.

CISP is implementing a three year education program in Somalia dedicated to improving equitable access to education and improving learning for all. The program's purpose is to enrol more girls and boys in school, inspire them to stay in school, and make sure they graduate school with the knowledge that enables them to break the cycle of poverty. The program is dedicated to improving quality of education and to ensuring sustainability. The program works with communities, parents, teachers, girls and boys alike to promote equitable access to education and to improve learning outcomes at schools and other training facilities.

As part of other intervention efforts to achieve project objectives and goals, CISP foresees the importance of investing in a school-based supplementary feeding programme in partnership with the WFP to improve nutrition, learning outcomes and attendance rates of children. School-age children need a good diet in order to develop and grow well, to study, to be protected from diseases, and to have the energy to get through the day. For the sake of their future, they need not only to eat well, but also to learn how to eat well, and how to grow their own food if necessary. Schools are well placed to show children how to go about this since children are open to new ideas at this age and are young enough to pick up good habits and new skills easily.

It is in this regard that CISP seeks to hire a consultant to be responsible for setting-up supplementary school feeding and school gardens in Galkayo and Guriel, in collaboration with WFP and CECs. The consultant will also identify short and long term sustainability strategies and will develop an appropriate training programme that includes planning, designing, implementation and management of school feeding and school gardens.

Scope of the Consultancy

- a) **Site visit and design proposal:** The consultant will visit the schools and discuss the design brief and view the proposed site for the school garden as well as discuss the plan for supplementary school feeding. A design proposal will be developed with a timeline.
- b) **Supplementary school feeding:** The consultant will work with CECs and mothers as well as WFP to set up supplementary school feeding and will train the food preparers in proper hygienic preparation. The consultant will set up monitoring mechanisms for the supplementary food items (fruits and vegetables).
- c) **Whole school consultation:** Each class will be visited to gain students input on the garden theme and design. This will take one hour for each class. Each class will vote on one or two themes. This will encourage ownership and participation by the students throughout the year.
- d) **Garden design:** The input from each class will be considered in the initial design. This will be presented to the CECs, MoE and/or to students at an assembly. The final design will include the materials list, plant list, budget and implementation plan. The CECs will be consulted on where

materials and tools that will be purchased by CISP will be kept and who will be responsible. The implementation plan will be prepared to indicate the garden construction stages.

- e) **Grant application:** It will be the responsibility of the head teachers to apply for grants to construct the gardens. The consultant will train the head teachers on the application process and provide assistance with identifying all the necessary materials needed. After the materials are received, the implementation will be followed in the schools by project officers and MoE.
- f) **Garden management plan:** The consultant will conduct training on garden management. Management planning and implementation process will be explained. A garden management plan will be developed to provide long term information to manage the school gardens effectively. In case a particular teacher takes up the responsibilities of a garden, the plan will ensure that the garden is not neglected when the teacher leaves.
- g) **School vegetable garden curriculum link:** To maximize the use of the garden, it is important for schools to link the curriculum and every day teaching. The Consultant will conduct visits, consultations and interview key stakeholders to explore links with the existing curriculum.

Expected Outputs and Deliverables

- Show community education committees and the Ministry of Education how to grow a variety of foods – vegetables, fruits, legumes, small animals – and do this with a good diet in mind
- Demonstrate to community education committees and the Ministry of Education how to extend and improve a diet with home-grown foods
- Increase community education committees preference for and consumption of vegetables and fruits
- Enhance school meals with micronutrient-rich vegetables and fruits
- Promote, or re-establish, horticultural skills in livestock-dependent economies
- Foster entrepreneurial skills in the area of market gardening
- Develop community education committees understanding of vegetable production
- Raise community education committees interest in a more varied diet
- Help community education committees to learn to produce vegetables
- Produce foods appreciated by the community and adapted to the local climate;
- Develop a step by step curriculum guide that will integrate school garden into classroom activities
- Encourage schools to serve harvested vegetables and fruits to students during school meals
- Encourage schools to acquire attitudes of cooperation, responsibility, self-esteem and self-confidence, motivation and the value of work
- Consultancy report including a training report that at minimum describes what has been done under the consultancy, provides lessons learned, and makes suggestions regarding next steps.

Contract and Duration

The Consultant/Consultancy firm should develop a feasible costed work plan/activity schedule covering and submit as integral part of the proposal

Qualifications

- The ideal candidate would have at least Master's Degree in Agriculture with an experience in school feeding.
- Demonstrated experience in development of school garden curriculum
- Demonstrated experience in developing organic land management strategies
- Demonstrated experience in planning, designing, and building organic/biodynamic gardens
- Previous experience working with a child centred approach
- Strong understanding of the Somali context

School Feeding and School Garden Expert Consultant - Term of Reference

- Fluency in Somali and English language

To apply:

Please send in the following documents before Friday the 24th of October 2014 to occonnor@cisp-nairobi.org. The consultant is expected to start working as soon as he or she has been selected, and no later than the 1st November 2014.

- Curriculum vitae
- Implementation plan/technical proposal
- Financial proposal
- References