



The Development Fund

Fighting hunger and poverty

**Terms of Reference (ToR) for Mid-Term Evaluation Assessment of
Climate Adaptation and Rural Development (CARD) in Ethiopia (2017-2020)**

Funding agency: The Development Fund, Norway

**Implementing Partners: AISDA, CIMMYT, EOSA, EWNRA, HELVETAS, iDE,
ORDA, OWDA, REST, and WSA.**

Contents

1. Background.....	3
1.1. Project description	3
1.2. Project Objectives.....	3
2. Purpose and scope	4
3. Objectives of the Mid Term Evaluation	5
4. Evaluation Questions to achieve the objectives.....	5
4.1. Relevance.....	5
4.2. Effectiveness.....	5
4.3. Impact.....	5
4.4. Sustainability	6
5. Methodology.....	6
5.1. Partners and Geographical location	6
6. Roles and Responsibilities	7
7. Ethical Consideration	9
8. Evaluation Time Line	9
9. Deliverables	10
10. Desired competencies and skills of the consultant.....	10

1. Background

1.1. Project description

The program Climate Adaptation and Rural Development (CARD) works to reduce poverty among 75,000 households, approximately 450,000 people in Afar, Somali, Tigray, Amhara and Oromia regions in Ethiopia. The beneficiaries of the program are small-scale farmers, pastoralists and agro-pastoralists, with particular attention to women and people living with disabilities. The program will reduce poverty by increasing food security and nutrition, building adaptive capacity of climate change, and promoting business development and entrepreneurship among the rural poor. To ensure long-term sustainability, the program will ensure participation from the target group, support and strengthen partner organizations' capacities, promote gender equality and coordinate with local and regional authorities.

The program is a continuation of the first year of the Drought Recovery and Climate Resilience (DRCR) program, which builds on the previous Sustainable Land Management and Afar and Somali Pastoralist Programs. These programs were complemented by a pilot program on Climate Smart Agriculture in 2015. The Development Fund's program on agro-biodiversity and climate adaptation is integrated in the new Climate Adaptation and Rural Development (CARD) program for Ethiopia.

Currently, the project is in its third year and has passed through revision of initial plan at different level to adapt to the context. There have been delays in implementation in some specific areas mainly due to the political instability in the country in 2018. Some of the implementing partners have done project-level evaluations that provided lessons for the overall program but this mid-term evaluation is the first to be conducted at program level including all 10 implementing partners.

1.2. Project Objectives

The climate adaptation and rural development (CARD) program is designed with the objective to improve the lives and livelihood of the rural poor through multi-sectoral interventions. CARD has different objectives at different levels from Impact to output summarized below:

Overall goal: Poverty reduction

Main results will be:

Increase food and nutrition security

- Strength crop productivity
- Improve livestock management
- Support irrigation access
- Raise knowledge and practice of nutritious food
- Support the production of nutritious food

Increase adaptive capacity to climate change

- Scale up access to quality seeds
- Raise knowledge and skills of the application of climate smart agriculture
- Raise knowledge on the natural resource management
- Provide access to water sources
- Support to access energy saving technologies
- Disseminate and share information on climate change

Improve business and entrepreneurship

- Support access to credit for investment
- Raise knowledge and skills on value addition of agriculture products
- Develop value chain in rural areas

Strengthen civil society organizations

- Raise the capacity of partners on management and technical issues by other partners
- Raise the capacity of partners of management and technical issues by DF

Increase social inclusion and gender equity

- Training women and men on gender issues.
- Support persons with disabilities to engage in business.

2. Purpose and scope

The major purpose of this evaluation is to draw lessons and obtain recommendations from external review that can improve gaps in the remaining life of the project and in designing of similar programs.

In doing so, the evaluation will review the extent of CARD program's relevance, effectiveness, and review the progress of the program towards sustainability and the impacts or changes that has been demonstrating in the selected thematic areas as described in 4.3: food and nutrition security; adaptive capacity of the target communities to climate changes; improvements in business and entrepreneurship; and strengthening civil society organizations.

The evaluation will be conducted in the selected targeted districts ensuring the representation of all target groups, partners and stakeholders at all levels. It is understood that the findings and recommendation from the evaluation will be used by DF and its partners as valuable input to strengthen their capacity in the course of effective project re-planning and implementation in the remaining project period. Accordingly, DF expects that the consultant will deliver concrete lessons, recommendations with attainable measures which will help to guide DF and implementing partners to identify which areas need improvement and also areas to capitalize on and ultimately for constructive decision-making.

3. Objectives of the Mid Term Evaluation

Objective 1: Evaluate Relevance and Effectiveness of the Program Design

This Mid-term Evaluation will primarily assess the effectiveness of the program's design in terms of partner arrangements and approaches to use expertise of partners

Objective 2: Evaluate Impact and sustainability of prioritized areas

This Mid-term Evaluation will review impact and sustainability of the CARD project implementation in terms of achieving its objectives focusing on prioritized areas

In achieving both objectives above, the mid-term Evaluation will serve for both learning and accountability purposes and will seek to:

- Identify key achievements in the course of CARD project cycle management that are the strengths so far
- Identify any problems faced by the project to date and formulate appropriate recommendations for corrective actions

4. Evaluation Questions to achieve the objectives

4.1. Relevance

- Does the way the project objectives at different levels are assigned to different partners, coordinated and compiled lead to reach to the end goal of the project?
- Does the project design respond to the priorities of the country as well as Norway's priorities?

4.2. Effectiveness

- To what extent are the CARD's institutional arrangements and programmatic design and approaches contributing to its effectiveness?
 - How effective is the support of DF through trainings, facilitation, coordinating etc? Has it enabled the different achievements by different partners to lead to the overall goal?
 - How effective is the training/guidance being provided by the expert partners? Are partners satisfied with the quality of accompaniment/guidance
 - Are trained partners able to effectively integrate new approaches into their projects? Are they achieving the expected results in these areas?

4.3. Impact

- To what extent has the programme been contributing towards the **intended** impacts (outcomes) so far? In particular, we are interested to know:
 - Has the increase in crop productivity and improvement in livestock management lead to increased **food and nutrition Security**? If yes How? If No, what has been missing?
 - Are the natural resource management activities (irrigation, water, CSB, land management etc) undertaken by the project showing promising contribution to increasing **climate resilience of the community**? If yes How? If No, what needs to be improved?

- Does the way the project work on establishing groups/cooperatives and increasing access to credit for groups/cooperatives enable the establishment of **business that gives alternative income to** the community? If Yes, How? If No, what needs to be improved? How is group establishment and credit access different for Pastoral community and how can the project address their different needs for better result?
- Are there differences in the extent to which women and men are benefitting from the intervention?

4.4. Sustainability

- What are the major activities being undertaken to ensure the sustainability of the program?
- Which key interventions have already a good base for sustainability and which ones lack the base for sustainability?
- What are the challenges that influence the sustainability of the program, and how can this be improved?
- How sustainable is the partnership/institutional arrangement? Would partners be able to apply, further develop the new skills/approaches without further support from the expert partner or without being in the big program with 10 partners after 2020? If not, what is the time scope that such support would be needed for new approaches to be successfully integrated?

5. Methodology

The consultant will develop appropriate methodologies and data collection tools to address the above questions. The evaluation should employ participatory methods that give voice to the target group, including direct quotes and testimonials or case stories. The evaluation should also consult direct beneficiaries, DF partners, government institutions and other relevant stakeholders. Relevant document review and KII will also be part of the methodology. Therefore the consultant is expected to craft appropriate methodologies and include in the inception report for verification by DF.

5.1. Partners and Geographical location

- The partner set up in CARD is:

The overall implementing partner set up:- 10 partners each of which work on selected outcome/output that feed into the overall goal

The Expert partner set up:- CSA, CSB and Gender have one expert partner each advising and supporting others:

- CSA is implemented by 7 partners in CARD and **CIMMYT** is the expert coordinating and technically guiding the other 6 (EWNRA, HELVETAS, iDE, ORDA, OWDA and REST)
- CSB is implemented by 4 partners in CARD and **EOSA** is the expert coordinating and technically guiding the other 3 (EWNRA, HELVETAS and WSA)

- Gender mainstreaming is a major cross cutting issues in all 10 partners' projects. **WSA** is the expert providing technical training and support to all the 9 partners
- The Geographic areas covered in CARD are in 5 regions, 12 zones, 18 districts/woredas and 100kebeles/Pas (see table below).
- The evaluator will propose a sampling plan that ensures sufficient representation to be able to adequately answer the evaluation questions. Key variables to consider will include variation in agroecological/socio-economic contexts, intervention strategies, and institutional arrangements (expert partner/trainee partners).

List of Partners, target Woredas, Zones, Regions, and Number of Kebeles

No	Implementing partner	Region	Zone	Woredas	Number of Kebeles
1	AISDA	Afar	Zone 5	Dawe	5
2	CIMMYT	Oromia	West Wlega	Gimbi	6
3	EOSA	Oromia	East Shewa	Lume	6
4	EWNRA	Oromia	Illu Aba Bora	Bilo Nopa	5
5	HELVETAS	Amhara	Wag Hemra	Sekota Zuria	3
				Abergele	3
				Ziquala	3
				Shala Seyemt	3
6	iDE	Oromia	North Shewa	Kimbibit	8
				Aleltu	8
			East Shewa	Gimbichu	4
7	ORDA	Amhara	North Shewa	Menz Lalo	5
				Menz Mama	5
8	OWDA	Somali	Shebele	Gode	8
9	REST	Tigray	Central	Adwa	3
			North Western	Medebay Zana	2
10	WSA	Amhara	North Wollo	Guba Lafto	18
				Habru	5
	Total	5 regions	12 zones	18 woredas	100 kebeles

6. Roles and Responsibilities

The consultant will prepare a comprehensive participatory methodology for undertaking the mid-term evaluation. The consultant will collaborate with partners to appraise existing data collection tools and design as needed and collect data. The consultant is expected to travel to program implementation areas, to adequately familiarize him/her with the project logical framework and any relevant information relating to policy and legal frameworks in the agriculture, environment and related sectors. The consultant will be responsible for data analysis and report writing which will be accompanied by presenting study results to DF and partner

organization for validation. Whereas, field visits and contact sessions with communities will be facilitated by partners.

The main responsibility for ensuring that all responsibilities are carried out lies with the lead consultant.

The consultant will undertake the following activities:

- Conduct review of data sources, reports and relevant literature
- Develop appropriate study methodology, design and tools
- Select most appropriate sample project areas for the visit
- Submit an inception report and finalize evaluation plan
- Conduct field work
- Synthesize findings
- Organize validation workshops in which local partners, DF staffs, other relevant stakeholders participate
- Produce draft report
- Produce final report, including incorporating comments from DF and its implementing partners.
- Present findings to DF staff and to partner staff as required by DF

Other responsibilities of the consultant:

- Adhere to all terms/conditions stipulated in the contract
- Pay income tax or other taxes as required
- Obtain relevant insurance
- Adhere to DF's code of conduct while undertaking the assignment.
- Adhere to the agreed time-frames with regard to all activities outlined in the timeline
- Consultant's own laptops and phones to be used during the assignment
- Pay for own accommodation and per diem etc

DF will be responsible for the following:

- Provide consultant with all required documents
- Link consultants to partner organizations and other relevant stakeholders and set up meetings as required
- Support in the process and provide technical input on methodology both from Oslo and Ethiopia office
- Plan (in collaboration with partners and the consultant) the field visits
- Take part in field assessments and follow up the progress of the evaluation as per plan ensuring quality

Implementing partners will be responsible for the following:

- Avail themselves for the consultant during the field visits
- Arrange interviews, focus groups discussions, meetings, project site visits as requested
- Logistic arrangement in the field in discussion with DF (Avail transportation, book accommodation)

7. Ethical Consideration

The whole Mid-term evaluation study process should follow standard good practice for engagement and enquiry with all participants. To this effect the assessment will be carried out in line with the following research ethics:

- Enough information/ explanation will be given to all participants of the mid-term evaluation assessment about the purpose, objective and privacy criteria and other related issues.
- Participants will be asked for their verbal consent before participation.
- All participants will be informed that they have the right not to partake in or withdraw from the assessment at any stage.
- The privacy of the informants and the confidentiality of the information provided by respondents will be respected.
- The assessment will be carried out with respect to cultures, traditions, knowledge and customs.
- Caution will be taken to avoid raising any unrealistic expectation of participants

8. Evaluation Time Line

The duration of the study is estimated to a maximum of **Six weeks**. The study should commence as soon as possible, and be concluded by latest 30 November 2019. Time required for each task will be determined.

S/N	Tasks	Time Required	Responsibility
1	Contextual Analysis and Literature Review; Initial meeting with DF and implementation partners etc.		Consultant
2	Prepare inception report; including initial preparations of data collection methodologies and tools, as well as detailed work plan		Consultant
3	Submit draft inception report		Consultant
4	Meeting between DF and consultant regarding inception report		DF
5	Inception phase; Finalize inception report, completion of data collection methodologies and tools, training of research team or similar, logistics of fieldwork including appointments.		Consultant
6	Field work		Consultant
7	Data entry, data analysis, development of draft Report and preparation for validation workshop;		Consultant
8	Validation of draft report in a workshop to receive preliminary comment from DF & IPs		Consultant with DF support to organize the workshop
9	Submission of draft report		Consultant
10	Receive further comments from DF & IPs		DF
11	Submission of final report		Consultant

9. Deliverables

Inception report: the inception report should provide details of the evaluation methodologies; data collection process including what will be assessed and why, showing how each assessment question will be answered by way of: proposed methods; proposed sources of data; and data collection procedures. The inception report should also include a proposed schedule of tasks, activities and deliverables, composition of team members in the field with the lead responsibility for each task.

Preliminary assessment report: After data collection and analysis is completed the consultant will submit preliminary assessment report and a validation workshop will be organized in which the consultant is required to present the main findings of the assessment to DF and CARD partners. Feedback on the assessment report will be obtained during the validation workshop. Relevant program staff both from partner organizations and DF will review the draft assessment report and give feedback in writing to the consultant to finalize the assessment report.

Final Evaluation Report: This will be prepared after receiving comments from DF and partners. The content and structure of the final analytical report with findings, recommendations and lessons learnt covering the scope of the assessment should meet the requirements as stated in the ToR, should not exceed 35pages plus annexes and should include the following:

- ✓ Cover page
- ✓ Table of contents
- ✓ Acronyms/Glossary
- ✓ List of Tables
- ✓ List of figures
- ✓ Executive summary
- ✓ Introduction/Background
- ✓ Description of the assessment methodology
- ✓ Main report of the assessment divided by major areas of assessment *(this needs to be discussed and agreed with DF when starting to draft the report or during finding validation workshop...)*
- ✓ Summary of findings and lessons learnt
- ✓ Annexes (filled data in SPSS, qualitative raw data)

10. Desired competencies and skills of the consultant

The evaluation team shall consist of international lead consultant, and local consultant from Ethiopia to complement with local context knowledge and language. The term consultant in this ToR applies to the evaluation team. The overall responsibility of the team towards DF lies with the lead consultant. The team will liaise closely with DF staff, relevant staff in DF partner and network organizations and staff of relevant ministries or other government and non government institutions in the countries where the evaluation will take place.

The members of the consultant team should hold the following competencies and skills:

- Advanced university degree in the field of agriculture, development studies, economics, or related fields; working particularly on climate change, food security, and rural development

- Experience in designing and conducting independent evaluations on rural development, food security, and climate change programs/projects
- Good understanding of gender, food security and community organizations;
- Good communication, analytical, drafting and document presentation skills;
- Demonstrated ability to meet deadlines

11. Presentation of technical and financial proposal

Consultants should present technical and financial proposal to Elin Cecilie Ranum, Head of the Programme Department elin@utviklingsfondet.no by 20 September 2019

Please contact Knut Andersen, Regional Director knut@utviklingsfondet.no or Hamelmal Getachew, Country Programme Manager hamelmal@utviklingsfondet.no for any questions regarding the ToR and program.