



Terms of Reference
EXTERNAL CONSULTANCY
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Consultant funded under:

Austrian Development Cooperation

Project:

**“Promoting integrated approaches
to animal health and plant protection in Abkhazia”**

Location:

Abkhazia/Georgia

1. BACKGROUND

Action Against Hunger (AAH) - Spain, as part of the Action Against Hunger International network, is a non-governmental, private, apolitical, non-confessional and non-profit organisation that fights hunger and its root causes worldwide. It has been operating in the South Caucasus region since 1994 and its current programmes focus on the following areas: Food Security, Livelihoods, Agriculture, Economic and Rural Development.

Under the project “Promoting integrated approaches to animal health and plant protection in Abkhazia”, financed by Austrian Development Cooperation, AHH is looking to contract consultant to perform an environmental impact assessment to be conducted at the beginning of April 2018. A central pillar around which the project is built is the need to promote environmentally-friendly practices and ameliorate actions that negatively impact on the environment. It is necessary that all agricultural approaches propounded by the project will contribute to improving the existing environmental conditions in the target areas, through the activities and by raising awareness of local population.

2. GENERAL OBJECTIVE

The consultant will review and analyse all outputs and related activities within the project and establish how they impact upon the environment. The key output will be an environmental impact assessment report that provides analysis, recommendations and adaptive measures that can be used by Action Against Hunger project team and the key stakeholders. This analysis and recommendations will derive from both desk research and a consultancy visit to Abkhazia to assess the project context and meet with relevant stakeholders. The short-term consultancy will for be for a period of nine working days, of which five working days (excluding travel) will be in Abkhazia and four working days will be home-based.

3. TASKS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The following tasks and responsibilities are expected to be accomplished over the 9-day consultancy period:

1. Perform desk review of the project proposal, supporting documentation and all available research to gain a comprehensive overview of the project scope and related environmental issues.
2. Meet with project team and all relevant stakeholders working on animal health and plant protection to discuss project activities, gain a strong knowledge of the local context and obtain feedback and inputs from other organizations / institutions.
3. Assess each project activity, including outputs and desired outcomes, to determine opportunities to promote and strengthen environmental actions and to mitigate any potential negative measures on the environment.
4. Inform Action Against Hunger project team on any potential adverse impact and environmental risks, possible alternatives and their respective impact on the environment and/or appropriate mitigation and compensatory measures to respond to these impacts or to avoid or reduce risks
5. Make a short presentation on the initial findings of the assessment to the Action Against Hunger project team.

6. Deliver a comprehensive report of the main findings, together with recommendations and adaptation measures that can be used in both the project implementation and by project stakeholders.

4. EXPECTED OUTPUTS

1. A presentation on the initial findings and recommendations
2. Submission of a final analytical report reflecting the main findings together with recommendations

5. QUALIFICATIONS & EXPERIENCE REQUIRED

- ✓ Academic qualification in a relevant discipline (environmental science, agriculture etc.)
- ✓ Demonstrable knowledge and experience of conducting environmental impact assessments
- ✓ Proven analytical and report writing skills
- ✓ Presentation and communication skills
- ✓ English language fluency
- ✓ Knowledge of Russian language an advantage

6. GENERAL CONDITIONS

Required start date: Beginning of April 2018

Duration of work: 9 days – 5 days in country and 4 days remote (home based)

Location of work: Tbilisi, Sukhumi & home based

Work Plan and Methodology: The work plan and methodology will be made together with Action Against Hunger prior to departure to Georgia

Fees: The total amount for consultancy fees to be negotiated based on the proposition and experience of the consultant.

Per diem: The amount of requested per diem should be included separately with the consultancy fee.

Payment: 100% of the fees to be paid on completion and approval of the timesheet, submission of final report and delivery of presentation to Action Against Hunger and stakeholders.

Travel: Travel to the mission and back will be paid directly by Action Against Hunger and all internal travel cross in country will be arranged and paid for by Action Against Hunger.

Accommodation: Hotel or guesthouse accommodation in Tbilisi and Abkhazia will be arranged and covered by Action Against Hunger.

Report: The final document will be submitted in an electronic version in the English language.

Rights: The ownership of the final report document will belong to Action Against Hunger and the Austrian Development Cooperation exclusively. The document, or any publication related to it, will not be shared by the consultant to anybody prior to the delivery of the final document to the donor by Action Against Hunger.

Action Against Hunger may share the results of the report with the following groups:

- Donor(s)
- Key Stakeholders
- Various co-ordination bodies

Visa: Action Against Hunger will support the consultant in the visa application and make payment for the visa for Abkhazia.

Insurance: The consultant shall manage his/her own insurance and provide the details of coverage to Action Against Hunger before departure.

Translation: Action Against Hunger will provide spoken translation from Russian-English and English-Russian as required by the consultant.

Other: Any materials required to carry out the assigned consultancy (laptop, mobile phone etc.), must be provided by the consultant.

6. APPLICATION PROCESS

- Interested applicants should send their **CV** and a **1-page letter of interest** outlining the applicant's knowledge and experience in the areas described above
- The letter should also include the **proposed gross daily rate for remuneration (in Euros)**. This daily rate should include the consultancy fee and per diem. *Please note that international and internal travel, accommodation and visa costs will be covered by Action Against Hunger*
- Applications to be sent to the Action Against Hunger email address: acfjobs@sc.acfspain.org with the subject "**Environmental Impact Assessment**" no later than **15th March 2018**.