

Terms of Reference  
PFPA - Stabilizing Afghanistan and Pakistan Bordering Areas

**Marketing, Trade, Rural Finance and Infrastructure Expert**

Under the overall guidance of the FAO TC Departmental Support Group for Afghanistan and Pakistan, the technical supervision of the Agricultural Services Division, in close consultation with the country FAO Representatives of Afghanistan/Pakistan, and in collaboration with relevant national and international partners, and under the direct supervision of the Mission Team Leader, the incumbent shall:

- Liaise and coordinate with other mission members on the analysis, proposals and field activities;
- Identify and summarize the major agricultural marketing systems and assess their relative importance to the local economies and target groups noting any important geographical and socio-economic/tribal differences;
- Assess and summarize the status, constraints and needs of the rural finance sub-sector, considering local and informal mechanisms as well as institutional arrangements;
- Identify, assess and summarize the relevance, constraints and needs of main marketing stakeholders, and of farmers groups and associations for marketing purposes;
- Assess and summarize the status quo, constraints and potentials/needs of the input and output marketing dimension of the agriculture sector (including crops, livestock, fisheries and forestry), including input supply, labour, post-harvest handling, storage and grain reserves, processing, agro-industries, marketing and trade, transport, farmers associations and organizations, considering where appropriate geographical, systems related, and socio-economic/ethnic differentiations;
- Verify and summarize the needed support for processing and value addition (inter alia skills, technologies, investments, institutions) of agricultural products;
- Review the local availability of agricultural inputs (and their sourcing - locally and internationally) including equipment necessary for the rehabilitation of farming systems;
- Assess market information (systems) needs, and verify appropriate methods for participatory learning and knowledge transfer options;
- Assess and summarize the status quo, constraints and needs of rural infrastructure and of the rural roads network in particular, for the recovery and long term development of the rural and agricultural economic sector; review the local availability of road construction inputs including rural infrastructure equipment and labour force necessary for the rehabilitation of the farming economy;
- Assess and summarize the relevance and impact on the agriculture sector, and on agricultural marketing, trade, rural finance and infrastructure in particular, of specific aspects such as i.a *local and regional trade issues (legislation, regulations and restrictions), the border/regional nexus and open border migration, water related institutional and legislation in the context of shared waters (including cross-border; dam construction) utilization for agriculture, strategic grain reserve, electrification needs, quality control to enhance exports; conflict and security, poverty, land tenure, food aid, poppy/narcotics culture, migrants/refugees, female-headed households;*
- Identify key local institutions as well as related capacity building and information needs; Review and summarize the status, constraints and needs of the related national and local institutional and regulatory setting, with the view to improve/increase its effectiveness;
- Review and summarize related government policies/strategies, ongoing and planned programmes and projects of the government, UN agencies, bilateral aid agencies, NGOs and others; Review respective project implementation arrangements and security related issues of project execution;

- Assess the needs for *improving/extending ongoing/planned sub-sector projects/programmes* and build in *complementarity, synergy and conceptual/programmatic linkages* to new interventions recommended;
- On the basis of the assessment, and in coordination with the other mission members, formulate technical, programmatic and strategic benchmarks for the Priority Framework and a Plan of Action including the identification of project/programme/component ideas (in the format to be provided), to address key constraints and to achieve sustainable food security and increased standards of living;
- Identify respective requirements for local capacity building and for strengthening participation and local ownership of the Priority Framework/Plan of Action with focus on the succeeding phase of community based consultations and programme formulation;
- If appropriate, provide monitoring and evaluation indicators, recommend pragmatic and realistic coordination and implementation arrangements, provide rough cost estimates for the envisaged interventions;
- Assist the team leader in the preparation of the main report;
- Perform any other related duties upon instructions received from the team leader.

### Reporting

- Observing the deadlines established and using report outlines and formats provided by the Team Leader, submit written inputs on request and a draft report including technical, programmatic and strategic benchmarks for the priority framework and plan of action, and operational components for the succeeding phase of people's centred consultation and programme formulation - incorporate changes and finalize after review by the Team Leader;
- Submit a final end-of-mission note summarising activities, findings, conclusions and proposals for follow-up action.

### Qualifications

Advanced university degree in marketing and trade, with long international professional experience in the agricultural marketing/trade, rural finance sector, rural infrastructure and rural roads, related damage assessment and socio-economic assessment. Extensive experience in formulation of emergency, recovery and long term development projects/programmes in chronically conflict and post conflict affected territories with UN organizations and NGOs. The consultant should have excellent communication, analytical and writing skills - ***capacity to write under time pressure concise, logically structured and to the point reports using an established outline and format*** - and proven ability to logically conceptualize programmes and projects. A good sense of teamwork and human relations are required. Work experience in Afghanistan and/or Pakistan is very much desirable. ***Excellent knowledge of English is essential - written and spoken.***

### Duration

Total length of assignment is approximately 6 weeks.

### Duty station

Kabul (Afghanistan) and Islamabad (Pakistan) with visits to bordering areas (security permitting).