Republic of the Philippines
Department of Agriculture
MINDANAO INCLUSIVE AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT PROJECT
Project Support Office Mindanao
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TERMS OF REFERENCE (TOR)

ECONOMIST
REGIONAL PROJECT COORDINATION OFFICE (RPCO)

BACKGROUND

The Government of the Philippines (GOP) has received a loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD or the "Bank"), specifically under Loan Agreement for IBRD Loan No. 9488-PH dated June 25, 2023 in an amount equivalent to ONE HUNDRED MILLION UNITED STATES DOLLARS (US$100,000,000) for the purpose of part-financing the Mindanao Inclusive Agriculture Development Project (MIADP).

The Mindanao Inclusive Agriculture Development Project (MIADP) is a project of the Department of Agriculture (DA) that aims to sustainably increase agricultural productivity, resiliency and access to markets and services of organized farmer and fisherfolk groups in selected ancestral domains and for selected value chains in Mindanao. MIADP seeks to improve the economic situation of a select number of the indigenous communities and further develop the approach and capacity, especially of local government units (LGUs), to continue a program of support to address the low incomes due to weak marketing linkages and poor infrastructure in the geographically isolated Ancestral Domains (ADs). It adopts successful approaches and strategies already institutionalized by DA, including (a) strengthened planning, resource programming, and implementation processes; and (b) integrated application of scientific and market-based data and instruments for long-term resiliency and economic profitability. The Project will be implemented over a period of six years (2023 to 2029).

Specific investments and interventions are implemented under four (4) interlinked components of the Project enumerated and briefly described below:

Component 1: Ancestral Domain Planning and Social Preparation. This component will support ICCs/IPs in moving from subsistence farming to a more organized, market-oriented production, based on sustainable management and protection of natural resources in the ADs, and with full consideration of the cultural context.

Component 2: Resilient Ancestral Domain Agri-Fisheries Infrastructure. Component 2 will increase the climate resiliency of producers in ADs by providing climate-proofed infrastructure identified in the ADAIFs to strengthen food supply and value chains, including infrastructure that improves physical access to markets.

Component 3: Ancestral Domain Agri-Fisheries Production and Enterprise Development. Component 3 will support registered IPOs identified in the ADAIF to develop enterprises that increase their agricultural productivity and access to markets and services. This component shall also provide support to the IPOs in the ADs in a ladderized approach. A ladderized approach will involve various levels which will prepare the IPOs to shift from grant assistance by the government to a self-sustaining operation of agribusiness enterprise through a partnership with big brother business enterprises and other financing sources.

Component 4: Project Management and Support, Monitoring, and Evaluation. This component will provide overall implementation support for the significant planning, coordination, implementation, and logistical costs entailed in ensuring appropriate levels of engagement with the LGUs, IPS and IPOs.

Component 5: Contingent Emergency Response Component (CERC). This component contains an ex ante mechanism available to the Government to gain rapid access to financing to respond to an eligible crisis or emergency. This component will allow for rapid reallocation of uncommitted project funds towards urgent needs in the event of a disaster (geophysical, climate-related, or manmade), or public health emergency.

SCOPE OF THE ASSIGNMENT

Reporting directly to the RPCO Deputy Project Director, the Economist will work closely with the Infrastructure and Enterprise Development components to ensure the efficient appraisal and evaluation of subprojects under such component.

It shall be the responsibility of the Economist to provide overall necessary technical assistance and services for the conduct of appraisal and evaluation of subprojects under the Mindanao Inclusive Agriculture Development Project.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The expected specific duties and responsibilities of the RPCO Economist are as follows:

- Review of Financial and Economic Analysis of the various feasibility studies and business plan proposals submitted under MIADP;
- Develop economic models and analytical methods and tools, including spreadsheet analysis;
- Conduct primary research, data collection and analysis and literature reviews;
- Prepare databases and data sets and carry out analysis of the same;
- Provide technical assistance to PPMIUs/MPMIUs during the conduct of technical validation in the field and other related activities if necessary;
- Deliver results within tight deadlines and in response to specific client requests; and
- Perform other duties and responsibilities that may be assigned by the RPCO Deputy Project Director.

EXPECTED OUTPUT:

1. Proposals reviewed (Economic and Financial Analysis of the submitted feasibility study/business proposals) for MIADP funding;
2. Economic models/tools developed and implemented;
3. Database updated;
4. Research reports submitted;

5. Technical support as Resource Person during the conduct of Financial and Economic Analysis training;
6. Stakeholders assisted (LGUs, DA staff, NCIP, etc.)
7. Reports on the conduct of technical validation in the field and other related activities.

REQUIRED EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATION

A. Education and Relevant Experiences
    i. Bachelor's degree in Economics, Agricultural Economics, Business Management/Administration or a closely related field with training in economic and financial analysis and program/project appraisal and evaluation. Master's degree relevant to said field is an advantage;
    ii. Minimum of two (2) years relevant professional experience in working with NGAs, LGUs, stakeholders and IP communities;
    iii. At least two (2) years relevant experience in performing cost-benefit analysis/economic and financial analysis

B. Knowledge, Competencies and Skills
    i. Strong analytical skills, ability to conceptualize, plan and execute innovative ideas, as well as, transfer of knowledge and skills;
    ii. Excellent computer skills and proficient in Microsoft applications, especially in Microsoft Excel;
    iii. Knowledgeable and has experience in data collection, data analysis and research;
    iv. Experience in administrative works will be an added advantage;
    v. Work well both independently with minimal management direction and with a team;
    vi. Able and willing to travel as deemed necessary;
    vii. Good network of academic and professional contacts; and
    viii. Familiarity with the PRDP system will be an asset.

Prepared by:

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Approved by:

JOHN B. PASCUAL, DVM
Project Director