



AFRICAN CONSERVATION TILLAGE NETWORK

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR LIVESTOCK HEALTH ASSESSMENT CONSULTANT

1. Background:

ACT in partnership with the New Ngorika Milk Producers Ltd (NNMPL) in Ngorika Location, Kanjuiri and Mirangine Wards, Olkalou Sub-County of Nyandarua County, is implementing Fodder Production demonstrations and Feeding trials using Conservation Agriculture (CA) and other climate smart technologies project. The project is funded by Inuka Africa MFI Ltd under the Climate Smart Agriculture initiative supported by Finance Innovation for Climate Change Fund (FICCF) of the UK Department for International Development (DFID).

One of the objectives of the program is to address priority technical needs that will strengthen efficiency, productivity and resilience in agriculture and thus improve the small scale dairy producers' incomes and livelihoods. The initiative aims to support the scaling up/out of innovative private sector investments in agricultural adaptation/resilience and low carbon interventions, low carbon services and low carbon assets in the agriculturally high production zones of Kenya.

Inuka Africa has contracted ACT to disseminate technological knowledge and information to the target farmers to improve their efficiency in management of their dairy herds. These include improving the management of zero grazing, dairy feed production, dairy feeding and nutrition, breed selection and upgrading, herd size dynamics, housing and herd health.

2. Objectives of the Assignment:

The main objective of this assignment is to facilitate target farmers to manage and improve the health status of their dairy herds to enhance milk production.

Specific objectives include to assist the farmers to:

- Improve dairy housing, feeding and biosecurity to improve herd health and disease control, considering the changing climatic conditions

- Develop and implement weather responsive dairy disease control plans compatible with seasonal weather calendar

3. Scope of Work:

The assignment will involve but not limited to assessment of the dairy herd health status for the 10 lead farmers on a weekly basis to determine their health status, housing and the management level and give recommendations for improvement. Specific tasks will include, on a weekly basis:

- Assess management standards being applied by each of the 10 farmers and recommend the necessary improvement to enable the farmer realize better health for the herd while conserving the environment
- Assess the health status for each of the trial animals and make recommendations that can enable each of the farmers to implement more efficient, low emission dairy management plans.
- Develop a health monitoring data collection template for farmers to collect daily health records for the trial and other animals
- Advise on the livestock nutrition requirements necessary to improve the health of the animals
- Advise (and document) the farmers on the immediate health management actions to take to improve the trial animals health status.
- Develop and share a workplan and schedule for the tasks to be performed in the duration of the project.

4. Duration:

- The assignment take 26 days (2 days per week) that will run from 1st March to 31st May

5. Outputs/Deliverables:

- Health status report for each of the trial animals and the whole herd and recommendations on the actions to be taken to improve/maintain within two weeks after award of the consultancy.
- Health monitoring data collection template, given to farmers, with weekly recommendations by the technician
- Weekly health assessment reports with advice given, actions taken and recommendations.
- Weekly feeding and nutritional status reports for the trial animals and necessary recommendations for improvements
- Final report detailing the opportunities, challenges and way forward to enhance dairy health in Kanjuiri ward

6. Qualifications and Experience:

- A Degree/Diploma in veterinary medicine, animal production, animal health or related field (Clear understanding of cattle registration with Kenya Livestock Breeders Organization (KLBO)).
- Proven experience in livestock extension service provision with extra knowledge on dairy health, breeding, feeding and nutrition
- Good writing skills

7. Evaluation criteria:

The Proposal for this contract will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

- Completeness in complying with all elements laid out in the assignment
- Consultant's capacity, past performance and relevant services undertaken in delivering similar contracts
- Strong familiarity with scope of work
- Quality of technical proposal
- Methodological approach
- Work plan and Budget

8. Application procedure:

To apply for this consultancy, the consultant should submit the following:

- Cover letter
- A technical and financial proposal for undertaking the assignment.
- Current Curriculum Vitae/ resume of the consultant who will undertake the task
- Firm profile, registration and other relevant statutory documents (if a company)
- Submit three reference letters from past clients/employers

All interested consultants or consultancy companies are asked to submit their applications by close of business **27th February 2017 at 1700 Hours EAT** to the Executive Secretary, ACT, and email address: hr@act-africa.org

ACT is an equal opportunity employer and believes that diversity promotes excellence in its operations. Only the short listed candidates will be contacted. ACT reserves the right to determine the structure of the tender process without prior notice and liability to compensate any party.