**Terms of references**

**Mid-term Evaluation – Smallholder Coffee Development Project in Tanzania (CODE-P)**

1. **Background**
2. **About Vi Agroforestry**

Vi Agroforestry is a Swedish Development Organisation, improving livelihoods of small-holder farmer families through agroforestry and sustainable agriculture land management (SALM). The organization has been working in the East Africa region for over 30 years, primarily around the Lake Victoria Basin in Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, and Rwanda. Its head office is in Stockholm, Sweden. Over the last 10 years, Vi Agroforestry has reached 2.4 **million people** and helped planting **over 148 million trees**. The foundation of Vi Agroforestry's work is sustainable agriculture and agroforestry – growing trees alongside crops and livestock. It provides increased access to food, access to sustainable energy sources, and more income. Sustainable agriculture contributes to mitigation and protection against the negative effects of climate change.

Vi Agroforestry’s firm belief is that functioning ecosystems are a precondition for secure food supply, economic development, and democratic systems. People living in poverty and without enough resources cannot be expected to protect or improve their environment. Therefore, the protection of the environment and a sustainable use of land resources, must go hand in hand with an improved agricultural production leading to increased food and income security.

1. **About CODE-P**

Coffee is one of Tanzania’s primary agricultural export commodities. Coffee accounts for about 14.1% percent of Tanzania’s total exports by value and generates earnings averaging US$100 million per year. The industry provides direct income to more than 400,000 smallholder farmers households, who produce 90 percent of Tanzania’s coffee, thus supporting the livelihoods of an estimated 2.4 million individuals[[1]](#footnote-2). Despite the Southern Highland of Tanzania having a favourable climate and other ideal coffee growing conditions, the average productivity in the region of Mbeya, Songwe, and Ruvuma ranged between 0.748 tons per hectares, equivalent to 0.54kg per tree as compared to 1.8 kg per tree in the Western regions of Tanzania[[2]](#footnote-3).

Amongst the major challenges reported that required interventions included low production and productivity of the quality coffee, inadequacy of extension services, limited access, affordable and reliable agro-inputs. Other factors include poor agronomic practices, coffee market volatility, limited financial institutions’ investment in coffee value chain as well as poor or no benefits of coffee returns to women and youth. It is against this background that Vi Agroforestry and co-applicants ANSAF, Stichting BRAC International, TaCRI and Café Africa, sought to intervene in partnership to implement CODE-P to unlock potential areas of development that contribute to the livelihood of the smallholder farmers in the Southern Highlands of Tanzania and the coffee sector at large. Between 2020-2024 CODE-P aims to reach 24,000 smallholder farmers including 12,000 youth in 6 districts of Ruvuma, Mbeya and Songwe Regions of Tanzania.

**CODE-P Overall Objective**

The overall objective of the CODE-P is to contribute to the inclusive and sustainable development of the coffee value chain for enhanced incomes and improved nutrition status of smallholder farmers in Ruvuma, Mbeya and Songwe regions of Tanzania. To attain this, Vi Agroforestry (Lead applicant); Agricultural Non-State Actors Forum (ANSAF), Cafe Africa Tanzania, Tanzania Coffee Research Institute (TaCRI), Stichting BRAC International has been implementing CODE-P with a special focus on strengthening smallholder coffee cooperatives as a key enabler of support services that enable production, processing, and trade of coffee produced by smallholders to stimulate trade-led economic growth in the Southern highlands of Tanzania.

**Specific objectives**

* **SO 1. Increased production and productivity of quality coffee by smallholder coffee producers through equitable, efficient resource allocations and SALM practices.**

This specific objective focus to support smallholder coffee farmers including youth and Agricultural and Marketing Co-operative Societies (AMCOS) in their efforts to rehabilitate aging coffee trees by replanting and establishing new farms with improved coffee species, implementation of various Sustainable Agricultural Land Management (SALM) practices for increased productivity, climate change adaptation and mitigations while ensuring efficient resources utilisation and allocations for enhanced coffee production. Facilitating the linkages of smallholder farmers with existing agro-input suppliers and financial services institutions as well as supporting the smallholder farmers to adopt integrated-diversified health nutrition practices to build their resilience to the climate shocks and ensure the production of a variety of affordable and nutritious foods in adequate quantity and quality to meet dietary requirements of the households in a sustainable manner.

* **SO 2. Increased incomes from improved postharvest, processing capacities, and market linkages (smallholder farmers, women, and men, small and medium enterprises – SME’s) and financial services linkages.**

This specific objective focuses on encouraging the stakeholder’s for sustainable investment in the coffee value chain. The agro-input suppliers, Small and Medium Enterprises (SME’s), AMCOS, Local Government Authorities (LGAs), Financial and Research institutions to support farmers through adoption of better post-harvest practices as well as investment in processing mechanism for greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction, improved quality of coffee, while creating the employment opportunities for young women and men farmers in the value chain.

* **SO 3. Enhanced competitiveness of coffee value chain with supportive policy and regulatory framework.**

This specific objective aims at improving the competitiveness of the coffee value chain through conducting evidence-based advocacy for adequate policy and regulatory frameworks pertaining to the coffee sector. In particular, this objective focus to address the challenges related to weak institutional support to coffee farmers, low farmgate prices, poor extension services, and inefficient marketing systems, that apparently have reduced competitiveness of the coffee value chain and encourage an enabling regulatory framework for the smallholder farmers.

1. **CODE-P Mid-term Evaluation Assignment**

CODE-P is now in the middle of its implementation and therefore requires a midterm review of the progress. The main objective of this assignment is to assess the progress made over the past two and a half years. Broadly the assignment seeks to evaluate the Logical Framework particularly, the overall objective, specific objectives, and targets; approaches used, and value for money and recommend an exit strategy for the long-term sustainability of the results. Further to this, the evaluation results are expected to facilitate accountability to the donors and beneficiaries as well as inform the ongoing interventions.

1. **Objectives of the Mid-term Evaluation**

The specific objectives of the mid-term evaluation are to:

* Assess the extent CODE-P expected results are achieved while identifying major lessons and challenges encountered in the process.
* Assess the relevance and effectiveness of the project and determine the project contribution to smallholder coffee farmers and to the development of coffee sector in Tanzania.
* Identify the various factors and actors that facilitate and constrain the achievement of project results.
* Assess and advise on accountability to the donors, beneficiaries as well as other stakeholders.
* Propose recommendations for ongoing implementation and the exit strategy for the sustainability of the results.

1. **Evaluation criteria and key issues to be addressed.**

The consultant shall analyse the information by employing the following evaluation criteria: relevance; effectiveness; efficiency; impact, sustainability, and Knowledge Management and Communication, and give recommendations under each criterion to improve the implementation of CODE-P in the remaining period.

* **Relevance**
1. Assess the extent CODE-P interventions are addressing the needs of the smallholder coffee farmers?
2. Assess the relevance of the CODE-P to consortium members, government, and EU strategy.
3. Are the appropriate beneficiaries reached and which strategies have been most useful?
4. Is the CODE-P in line with the government’s policies, strategies, and programmes.
5. To what extent CODE-P interventions are contributing to the improved livelihood of smallholder coffee farmers, particularly in the southern highland of Tanzania.
* **Effectiveness**
1. To what extent have the outcomes and outputs (objectives), stated in the CODE-P grants application document and logical framework, been achieved?
2. To what extent the approaches used are effective in achieving the CODE-P expected results?
3. Have there been any external factors that hinder or facilitate the project to meet its set goals?
4. Identify the strategies that have proven particularly effective for achieving the objectives.
5. Assess how the views of communities were considered at the different levels of the project cycle (i.e. design, implementation, and evaluation).
* **Efficiency**
1. To what extent do CODE-P interventions adhere to cost, time, and quality efficiency? E.g. Are there the least costly resources that can be used to achieve the same desired results?
2. How have the project funds been utilised and what controls have been in place?
3. How efficient is the process of learning and dissemination of the information from the trainer?
* **Impact**
1. Identify and analyse the changes (positive and negative) that the project has brought in the lives of coffee farmers, intended or unintended. Understand what has happened because of the CODE-P intervention.
2. Assess if the CODE-P has a likelihood of contributing to the overall project impact.
3. Comment on the impact the project had on consortium members.
4. What are the prospects for upscaling, replication, or multiplier effects of the project?
* **Sustainability**
1. Assess the sustainability of the results of the CODE-P – i.e., will the outcomes sustain after the project has ended; how likely does continuing progress towards the impact seem and what are the major factors contributing to or hindering sustainability – e.g. rehabilitated infrastructure
2. Assess the likeliness of the district platforms to continue functioning after the CODE-P ends?
3. Involvement of government agencies and other stakeholders in project implementation and exit strategy.
4. Does the project have an exit or sustainability strategy? Has it been followed?
* **Knowledge Management and Communication**
1. Assessing the capacity of the consortium members to capture, and disseminate successes, challenges, and lessons learned related to the CODE-P implementation.
2. Document recommendations on how to improve documentation and dissemination of learning.
3. **Methodology**

The evaluation will be conducted by an external consultant who will lead the study team and work under the supervision and support of **Vi Agroforestry Tanzania Country Office team**. The consultant is expected to create a detailed methodology for conducting the evaluation, taking into consideration the local context. The consultant will develop appropriate tools and propose an appropriate sampling methodology and size that is statistically valid and cost-effective. The methodology, sample size and proposed tools will be discussed and approved by the Vi Agroforestry team before the commencement of the survey.

The study should employ both quantitative and qualitative methods. The following data collection methods should be given due consideration while designing the research methodology.

1. Secondary data collection will involve a desk review of CODE-P documents, particularly the CODE-P grant application, baseline survey report, progress reports, monitoring and evaluation framework, other literature, documents, and studies from Vi Agroforestry, and co-applicants.
2. Primary data collection of both qualitative and quantitative data. Sample surveys will be conducted through co-applicants to generate quantitative data from different target groups within the community. Key informant interviews with coffee farmers, processors, buyers, cooperative leaders, government officials at local and national levels as well as CODE-P consortium members.
3. **Requirements**
* A Tanzanian National with at least a master’s degree in the field of Agriculture, Economics, Monitoring and Evaluation, Development Studies, or any other related disciplines.
* A deep understanding of the agribusiness, agriculture sector and policy development processes in Tanzania.
* Over five years of experience in consultancy services in performing similar assignments with an outstanding track record of producing quality work and completing within the given timeframe.
* Over five years’ experience in carrying out programme evaluations and research studies.
* Over five years’ experience and knowledge of governance, human rights, gender, participatory development programmes and value chain approach.
* Experience working with local communities, non-governmental organisations and government in areas of cash crops.
* Experience in the design and use of participatory methods for assessment and evaluation
* Excellent writing, editing, attention to detail and organisational skills.
1. **Work plan and schedule**

A total of 25 calendar days will constitute the evaluation period beginning 15th April 2023. This includes an estimated five days to prepare relevant tools and review documentation, ten days for data collection, and ten days for compiling the information gathered, analysis, drafting, completing the evaluation report, and report presentations to CODE-P staff and stakeholders. The consultant will arrange for a feedback meeting to share a draft of the evaluation report with the CODE-P consortium staff. A final report will then be provided after including the comments. The consultant will share the final report with stakeholders through a virtual workshop.

1. **Reporting**

The evaluation expected outputs.

* + - A clear and concise well-written evaluation report containing lists and tables, facts, and figures on the situation at the beginning of the project and currently.
		- PowerPoint presentation of not more than 15 slides of the report findings
		- Final virtual workshop with stakeholders on the findings of the mid-term evaluation. The final report will be submitted to Vi Agroforestry in English.
		- Soft copy (USB) of the survey data used in the analysis
1. **Declaration of relationships**

Describe if you/your organization/employees have any business or personal relationships connected to Vi Agroforestry

1. **How to apply and Selection criteria**

Interested and appropriately qualified (individual or firm) are invited to apply. The application should contain the following:

* + - A letter of interest addressed to the Country Manager
		- A Technical offer showing the interpretation of the ToR and indicating a detailed proposed methodology
		- A CV of the consultant or consultancy firm showing previous relevant experience
		- A detailed financial offer (expressed in TZS indicating the cost required for the undertaking of the work required)

Vi Agroforestry will vet the proposals received and inform all the bidders of the award. The successful bidder will be selected through an evaluation of the technical proposal in line with the Vi Agroforestry procurement arrangement together with financial offers competitiveness[[3]](#footnote-4).

Submissions should be sent to Thaddeus.mbowe@viagroforestry.org also copying stella.msami@viagroforestry.org. The submission should be clearly titled: ‘Expression of Interest to Conduct CODE-P – Mid-term Evaluation’ in the subject box. The deadline for submissions is 17:00 hours East African Time (EAT) on April 4th, 2023.

1. Tanzania Coffee Industry Development Strategy 2011/2021 [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. CODE-P baseline survey 2020 [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. The consultant and Vi Agroforestry will agree on the remuneration rate per person/day. Charges related to taxes, mission allowances for fieldwork and secretarial fees are to be borne by the consultant. As part of this negotiation process, the consultant should propose the fees s/he wishes to charge noting that Vi Agroforestry will cover the transportation costs to and from the field assignments and accommodation during the field work. Vi Agroforestry will also provide an online database with ODK enabled mobile data collection forms. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)