

TMG Research gGmbH
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Berlin, 14 April 2025

INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN:

CALL FOR TENDERS FOR THE PROVISION OF CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR TMG RESEARCH gGMBH

TENDER NO.:T.1000.25.003

Dear Sir/Madam,

TMG Research invites qualified individuals and/or organisations to submit tenders to provide services outlined below.

Please direct any questions regarding the Call for Tenders to the *Point of contact for Questions* listed below. All questions should be submitted in writing by email to the address stated in this Call.

TMG Research reserves the right to disqualify and reject proposals from suppliers who do not comply with the guidelines laid out in this letter and below. As part of this tender process, TMG Research makes no obligations in any way to:

- a) Pay any vendor for any Call for Tenders response; or
- b) Award the contract to the lowest or any specific bidder; or
- c) Accept any Tender information received from vendors; or
- d) Include vendors responding to this Call for Tender, in any future invitation; or
- e) Any other commitment to vendors whatsoever.

We look forward to receiving your response.

Yours sincerely,

TMG Research gGmbH

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TENDER NO.: TENDER NO.:T.1000.25.003

Disclaimer: TMG Research reserves the right to determine the tendering process, number of short-listed participants, the right to withdraw from the process, the right to change the time schedule at any time, and the right to withdraw this tender at any time, without prior notice and without liability to compensate and/or reimburse any party whatsoever.

Synopsis:

Tender No. (To be quoted on all communication)	T.1000.25.003
Issuing office and address	TMG Research gGmbH EUREF Campus 6-9 10829 Berlin Germany
Point of contact for questions	Emmanuel Atamba: emmanuel.atamba@tmg-thinktank.com
Email address for submission	Friederike Böckmann: Friederike.boeckmann@tmg-thinktank.com
Date of call for tender	15 Apr. 25
Deadline for submission of bids	30 Apr. 25
Validity of Tender	Tenders will be deemed binding for 4 calendar weeks from the date of the deadline for submission of bids.
Award type	Consultant Contract (Freelance)
Duration of assignment, including reporting	1 May. 25 – 31 Dec. 25
Available resources	Approx. No. of Days of Work 110

Terms of Reference

1. Background

TMG Research, (TMG), is a Berlin-based research institution with a team based in Nairobi and projects across several countries in Africa and Asia focusing on three areas: Food Systems Transformation, Land Governance, and Adaptation to Climate Change.

Despite an abundance of food, around 800 million people, or just under 10% of the global population, suffer from hunger. The ongoing global food crisis, rising energy costs and accelerated climate change — underscore the dire need for radical transformation for how we produce, distribute, and consume our food. Hunger is not the only consequence of failed food systems. The impacts extend to the overall health and wellbeing of both people and planet. According to some estimates, the agricultural sector is the primary driver of biodiversity loss, threatening about 86% of species at risk of extinction.

With growing awareness of these inextricable links, calls for a food systems approach – instead of focusing on different agri-food sectors – have grown louder. The central role of food systems in reconciling social, economic, and ecological dimensions is even more apparent in the face of escalating food, climate, ecological, and energy crises.

TMG Research's work on food system transformation in Kenya focuses on the governance of food system transformation (and the possible role of German development cooperation in supporting these governance processes) and the transformation of urban food systems, particularly in low-income urban neighbourhoods.

2. Objectives

TMG is implementing a project on the governance of food systems transformation through a grant agreement with Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH as part of the Global Programme on Sustainable Agricultural Systems and Policies (AgSys) in Kenya. The core objective of the grant agreement is to support the improvement and adaptation of food system transformation processes and governance formats in Kenya. TMG Research focuses on providing a systematic analysis of relevant food systems transformation processes and governance formats to provide insights needed to effectively steer food systems transformation in Kenya. In addition to this work, TMG is also implementing a grant agreement with the McKnight Foundation on Transformative Agroecological Policies that will have a focus on the East African Regional hubs and initiatives for agroecology. The aim of this call is to identify a consultant to support in the implementation of the two projects project.

3. Tasks and Deliverables

The consultant will support the Kenyan team based in Nairobi in implementing the project. Key areas of focus for the consultant will include accompanying selected processes to gather the necessary insights through consistent monitoring and process observations and conduct in-depth research on identified governance and coordination frameworks. Specifically, the consultant will work on the following tasks clustered in work packages 1 and 2 below:

Work package 1: Monitoring the implementation of the National Agroecology Strategy for Food Systems Transformation in Kenya and analysis and targeted engagements with relevant agroecology networks and hubs in East Africa (Estimated number of days – 60)

Work package 1 will closely assess the implementation of the National Agroecology Strategy for Food Systems Transformation (NAS-FST). Launched in November 2024, the strategy aims to promote agroecology in the country and position agroecology, including agroecological principles and practices, as a viable path to food systems transformation. With the strategy now in place, the focus of agroecology actors shifts to its implementation. At the East Africa level, the consultant will support in monitoring and conducting strategic engagements on relevant agroecology networks, hubs, multi-stakeholder platforms at a regional level as well as in the four countries where TMG's intervention will focus on which include Kenya, Malawi, Tanzania and Uganda. Specifically, the consultant will:

- a. Contribute to an assessment of the different pathways for implementation of the NAS-FST
- b. Assess the NAS-FST implementation processes, including drivers and barriers, opportunities and challenges, etc.
- c. Assess and closely accompany the rollout of county agroecology policies in at least two counties with a view to systematically compile relevant insights on among other aspects, the level of coherence, coordination and engagement of relevant actors.
- d. Mapping of existing regional framework for collaboration for agroecology actors in the East Africa region
- e. Targeted engagements, including attending relevant events in the three countries with a bearing on cross-country knowledge exchange, collaboration on agroecology

Expected outputs:

- a. Contribution to assessing pathways for the implementation of the NAS-FST (Up to 10 pages)
- b. Monthly assessment reports for the different processes and activities relevant to the implementation of the NAS-FST (Up to 5 pages)
- c. Monthly assessment reports for county agroecology policy development processes (Up to 10 pages)
- d. Mapping of existing formal and informal frameworks for regional collaboration and engagement on agroecology
- e. Meeting notes with summarised learnings and findings relevant to the work programme

Work package 2: Analysis and development of adapted governance formats - Sub-national (Estimated number of days – 40)

The consultant will assess the CASSCOM structures as a potential framework to strengthening the coordination of county-level food systems actors. The specific tasks under this work package will include:

- a. Designing and conducting a rapid assessment of the status of CASSCOM operationalisation in all 47 counties
- b. Analysis of successful operationalisation of CASSCOMs in three counties, including an assessment of the CASSCOM formation and operationalisation process in three counties with successful CASSCOM implementation
- c. Prepare a comprehensive report analysing the process of establishment and operationalisation of CASSCOM mechanisms at county levels
- d. Organize a stakeholder workshop on how to strengthen CASSCOM structures for better coordination of the agri-food sector in Kenya and Workshop report

Expected outputs

- a. Report on the status of CASSCOM operationalisation in the 47 counties
- b. Comprehensive report on CASSCOM operationalisation in the three counties analysed in b above
- c. Stakeholder workshop report

Other tasks (Estimated number of days – 10):

Depending on the needs of the programme:

- a. Contribution to the scientific analysis of the outputs
- b. Contributing to TMG publications relevant to the two processes. This can include policy briefs, blog articles, and opinion pieces.

4. Supplier Requirements

- i) Minimum of a bachelor's degree in agriculture, political science, development studies, urban studies, or similar fields
- ii) At least 5 years of experience researching food systems in Kenya
- iii) Excellent writing skills and track record in relevant publications and media presence related to the field.
- iv) Language skills: English, Swahili.
- v) Based in Nairobi
- vi) Knowledge of and previous experience interacting with high-level Kenyan representatives, particularly at government level in a professional setting

5. Tender requirements

The tender requirements include:

- a) A technical proposal of max. 5 pages, detailing the consultant's strategy to deliver the services. The technical proposal should also specify previous experiences in working with high-level representatives of Kenyan ministries and in working with community-based organizations.
- b) Writing sample, list of relevant publications and contributions to media.
- c) Details regarding previous professional experience with high-level Kenyan representatives and ministries as well as German donors/development agencies
- d) CV(s) of the professional(s) who will work on the assignment.

- e) Net Daily Rate and Total Number of Days Needed (excl. travel costs and miscellaneous expenses). Local travel is considered covered by the daily rate and will not be reimbursed extra. If upon TMG's request and the consultant's availability costs for trips outside Nairobi will be covered. Per diems for such trips are considered covered by the daily rate and will not be paid extra.
- f) At least 2 professional references from previous clients.

6. Submission of tender

The complete tender document should be sent by email in pdf format to the email address(es) listed in the synopsis at the latest by the deadline stipulated in the synopsis and referencing the Tender Number.

7. Evaluation Criteria

Evaluation Criteria	Weight
Price	30%
Proven track record demonstrating active engagement in food system transformation in Kenya	20%
Knowledge of policies and political landscape relevant to the Kenyan food system	20%
Language capacities	15%
Quality of the technical proposal submitted	15%
Total	100%