

ROYAL GOVERNMENT OF CAMBODIA
CAMBODIA AGRICULTURAL SECTOR DIVERSIFICATION PROJECT (CASDP)
IDA Credit No. 63660-KH

TERMS OF REFERENCE

**National Consulting Firm for conducting policy study on
“Analysis of Global Food Crisis and Its Implication for Cambodia's Agriculture Sector”**

Duty station:	Supreme National Economic Council (SNEC)
Section/Unit:	MEF-PIU/CASDP
Contract/Level:	National Consulting Firm (Lumpsum output based)
Supervisor:	Project Director/Project Manager MEF-PT/CASDP
Mode of contract:	Duration of the assignment: 5 months
Reference No.:	MEF-PIU-Con-3
Procurement method:	Consultant's Qualification Selection (CQS)

I. Introduction

1. The global food crisis is an increasingly critical issue for many countries in the world mainly caused by the existing negative escalated impact of (1) Climate Change, (2) Supply Chain Disruption due to Covid-19 pandemic, and (3) Russian-Ukraine War. Drought induced by climate change has extremely affected crop production in many countries in Asian, African and American regions. This trend is expected to continue over the next ten years. According to a report published by NASA, the climate change may significantly affect the production of maize (corn) and wheat as early as 2030. Under high greenhouse gas emission scenario, maize crop yields are projected to decline 24%, while wheat could potentially see growth of about 17%. Many countries, especially those in Europe would miss the commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions due to the geopolitical tension and energy crisis caused by the Ukraine war. A worst-case scenario is highly probable. Besides ongoing impact of climate change, global food sector was also hit hard by the outbreak of Covid-19 pandemic which leads to supply chain disruption, resulting in higher food inflation for importing countries including Cambodia as well. Last but not least, Russian-Ukraine War starting from early 2022 has intensified global food crisis with the supply of agriculture inputs especially fertilizer and animal feeds disrupted. This results in the increase of production costs in the agriculture sector and many agriculture-based countries have been severely affected, and Cambodia is also one of them. The price of fertilizer Cambodia increased by 50% between December 2021 and August 2022. Even though the price of fertilizer was slightly moderating over the last few months, it remains high for Cambodian farmers. Notably, over the past two years, Cambodian farmers had to bear higher production costs but they could not sell their produce at prices to compensate for these higher input costs. While global food supply is projected to be extremely affected by aforementioned factors, global food demand is forecasted to significantly increase by 35% to 56% between 2010 and 2050 which will cause significant portion of global population to be at risk of hunger.

2. The future trend of global food crisis is expected to affect Cambodia from two aspects. Firstly, as Cambodia is a net importing country of major agriculture inputs especially fertilizer it is anticipated that Cambodian farmers would continue to be affected by higher production costs. Secondly, the global food crisis would likely cause an increase of prices of major food items which Cambodia relies on as imports from other countries. However, Cambodia's agri-food sector is estimated to have large potential for growth and the potential could be unleashed if the structural challenges and institutional issues are effectively addressed from production stage to distribution or export stage. The combination of a big gap between potential and actual performance of the Cambodian agriculture sector from primary production and processing together with projected severity of global food crisis, as well as widening market access for Cambodian food products through Cambodia-China Free Trade Agreement (CCFTA) and Cambodia-Korean Free Trade Agreement (CKFTA) as well as Regionally Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), are expected to enable Cambodia to further maximize economic benefit in the agriculture sector in order to support sustainable and inclusive economic growth, and job creation for people amid post covid pandemic.

3. In order to provide clear and concrete policy direction to the government, the Supreme National Economic Council (SNEC) in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF),

under the Cambodia Agriculture Sector Diversification Project (CASDP) financed by World Bank and Government, has sponsored the proposed policy study on “Analysis of Global Food Crisis and Its Implication on Cambodia’s Agriculture Sector”.

II. Objective of the assignment

4. The study on “Analysis of Global Food Crisis and Its Implication on Cambodia’s Agriculture Sector” is conducted to meet three main specific objectives:

- i) To assess the global and regional demand and supply of major agriculture commodities and their price trend in next three years, and to identify the key potential agriculture commodities that Cambodia should target,
- ii) To assess the global price trend of major agriculture inputs and its spill-over effect on Cambodia’s agriculture production cost, and
- iii) To provide concrete policy direction and measures to minimize the production cost induced by higher agriculture input costs, and to promote export and enhance food security under the context global food crisis.

III. Scope of Work

5. Under the overall direction supervision of the MEF-PT, the national consulting firm will work closely with the SNEC and another relevant project team. The tasks of the firm include, but not limited to, the following activities:

- Prepare the inception report with draft workplan of the Study
- Hold consultation meetings with Ministerial and Agriculture sector stakeholders to collect inputs to develop detail research design and data analysis
- Field work, data collection and processing
- Compilation and submission of Draft Report
- Deliver Consultation workshop and validation workshop in order to incorporate feedback from stakeholders
- Completion of the final report

IV. Deliverable/Specific outputs expected from national consulting firm

6. The Outputs will be delivered to the MEF-PT/CASDP, after comprehensive review and approval by the project team.

Timeline	Expected Output
One week after signed contract	- “Kick off workshop to finalize and agree on an action plan that would serve as the roadmap of the research”.
To be based on the Agreed Action Plan (AAP)	- Conduct Desk reviews and Submission of Inception report- which include the scope, methodology and outline of the study-and present to MEF-PT/CASDP-SNEC. - Develop concept note for field assessment and data analysis and stakeholder consultations.
To be based on the Agreed Action Plan	- Conduct field assessment and data analysis of policy study on “Analysis of Global Food Crisis and its Implication for Cambodia's Agriculture Sector” - First draft report of policy study on “Analysis of Global Food Crisis and Its Implication for Cambodia's Agriculture Sector” developed drafted and approved by MEF-PT/CASDP team.
To be based on the Agreed Action Plan	- Consultation workshop and validation workshop conducted in order to incorporate feedback from relevance stakeholders - Revision the first draft report

To be based on the Agreed Action Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A revision of the first draft report shall be provided to the MEF-PT/CASDP within 2 weeks (10 working days) of the completion of each stage of the assignment for which a report is required, for a comprehensive participate technical reviewed and approved by a project team, followed by final reviewed and approved by MEF-PT within 2 weeks (10 working days) for further revision, updating and improving by consulting firm where necessary need accordingly. - Submission final report
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V. Minimum Qualifications and Staffing Required for National Consulting Firm

7. Minimum firm qualifications

- Sector of the firm: research study, policy study, capacity building, agriculture development and evaluation.
- At least 4 years of extensive experiences in policy development design in various sectors. The experience in agriculture sector and economic development may be an advantage
- Experience in managing contracts/projects with a Multilateral Development Partner (MDPs) or bilateral donor, NGOs etc.
- **Staffing:** The consulting firm will be required to provide at least two experienced key experts who can conduct the high-level studies aimed at supporting agricultural policy design at ministerial level. The firm can employ more staff as deemed appropriate to successfully conduct this assignment.

8. Key Experts' Qualifications and Experience Requirements:

- At least Master's degree in Agricultural Economics, Economics or equivalent
- At least 5 years of professional experience in advisory role in agricultural economic policy working at Ministerial level
- Proven experience in designing and implementing and drafting reports on high level studies aimed at supporting agricultural policy design at Ministry level
- Extensive and demonstrated professional experience of at least four years in carrying out policy study, research study or project evaluation.
- Extensive experience in organization of field surveys and good coordination of data collection with relevant stakeholders.
- Proven ability to design a suitable methodology, survey instruments and prepare reports under at least two similar assignments.
- Proven capacity to carry out data processing and statistical analysis and preparing visual summary tables and graphics illustrating survey findings.
- A good knowledge and familiarity with processes of international donor organizations especially IFC, World Bank and government agencies
- Excellent in writing, editing, and oral communication skills in English are required.

VI. Reporting and payment

9. **Reporting requirements:** Reports are expected to be written in English and Khmer. A total of three reports will be submitted – 1) inception report with workplan following inception presentation to MEF-PT/CASDP and SNEC; 2) First draft Report submitted 3 weeks before end of contract; 3) Final report after presentation of results to MEF-PT/CASDP and submitted after incorporation of comments from SNEC and MEF-PT/CASDP. The Reports shall be provided to the MEF-PT/CASDP-SNEC 2 weeks (10 working days) of the completion of the reporting period for which a report is required, for a comprehensive review and approval by MEF-PT/CASDP-SNEC within 2 weeks (10 working days) for further revision, updating and improving by a national consulting firm where necessary.

10. **Inputs ensured by the MEF-PT/CASDP-SNEC:** The MEF-PT/CASDP will facilitate necessary contacts with relevance stakeholder at national and provincial level.

11. **Duration of Assignment:** This assignment is expected to commence in April 2023. The national consulting firm will be contracted for 5 months period from the contract signing date (April 2023 – September 2023). The national consulting firm will work daily under the direction of the Project director through project Manager.

12. **Payment terms:** The payment will be made to the selected consultant upon satisfactory completion of each output outlined in the table below.

No	Deliverables	Timetable	Payment term
1	Submission of inception report with workplan to MEF-PT/CASDP-SNEC	2 nd week after the contract signed	20%
2	Submission of the final action plan and present to MEF-PT/CASDP-SNEC	4 th week after contract signed	15%
3	Completion of Field work; Data Analyst and Stakeholder consultation	12 th week after contract signed	30%
4	Completion of Draft evaluation report and workshop to present the report	16 th week after contract signed	25%
5	Submit Final report (English)	20 th week after contract signed	10%

The EOI should be sent to the address below (either of both means of submissions, either Original Hard Copy or Electronically submission) by March 21, 2023.

Mr. Ban Kosal

CASDP's Chief Procurement Officer

Ministry of Economy and Finance (MEF), 5th Floor, Building B, Street 92, Khan Doun Penh, Phnom Penh, Cambodia

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and copy to

Mr. Kann Virak

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