

**FEDERAL GOVERNMENT OF NIGERIA
FEDERAL MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT**

AGRO-CLIMATIC RESILIENCE IN SEMI ARID LANDSCAPE (ACReSAL) PROJECT

**TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR MANAGEMENT EFFECTIVENESS TRACKING TRAINING TOOL
(METTT)**

1.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Nigerian Federal Ministries of Environment, Water Resources and Sanitation, as well as Agriculture and Food Security are working in collaboration with state governments to implement the Agro-climatic Resilience in Semi-arid Landscapes (ACReSAL) project with support from the World Bank. ACReSAL's Project Development Objective (PDO) is to increase the adoption of sustainable landscape management practices in targeted watersheds in Northern Nigeria and strengthen Nigeria's long-term framework for integrated climate-resilient landscape management. ACReSAL is a six-year project that became effective in June, 2022, and is being implemented in 19 States of the Federation including the Federal Capital Territory (FCT). Activities undertaken for ACReSAL are expected to assist the state and federal governments to meet the goals of national development plans as well as meet the federal government's commitment to the UNFCCC.

The project will support scaling-up sustainable landscape management (SLM) practices in northern Nigeria through: strategic investments addressing natural resource degradation in an integrated ecosystem approach, building the capacity of institutions towards risk reduction and to respond to climate variability, and generating information and knowledge to improve sustainable land and water management practices in Nigeria as a whole, and northern Nigeria in particular. The project's emphasis focuses on watershed planning, natural regeneration of tree cover, soil and water conservation, sustainable water harvesting and water resources management, integrated nutrient management, low tillage, secure biodiversity, and agroforestry. This emphasis forms the foundation for achieving the goals of food security and inclusive green growth through innovative financing instruments, improved technical and capacity building mechanisms, and comprehensive policy frameworks for land use and watershed planning, and climate change adaptation techniques.

Some of the Federal Government of Nigeria (FGN) plans are to plant 30 million trees to control desertification while recovering four million hectares of land. ACReSAL will contribute to these goals by restoring one million hectares. Also, ACReSAL will contribute to additional FGN goals such as the FGN planned rehabilitation of 20 oases, establishing rangelands in the frontline states, stabilizing and restoring active sand dunes, and the continued monitoring of drought and desertification in Nigeria.

These issues require urgent and focused action to scale up cost-effective land restoration practices, to ensure a more sustainable future – including food and water security – in a changing climate. Integrated natural resource management is critical to addressing land degradation and restoration, building climate resilience in the semi-arid landscapes in Nigeria, as well as enhancing sustainable land and water resources and livelihood productivity. Given these issues and integrated catchment management is an appropriate framework to address the natural resources management and human developmental challenges.

The ACReSAL Project has the following three components:

Component A: Dryland Watershed Management: This component will implement integrated watershed management planning and addresses the challenges of large-scale watershed degradation in northern Nigeria.

Component B: Community Climate Resilience: This component targets the local level, the day-to-day reality of communities and farmers, where most of the challenges of dryland management are found. Communities need support to become more resilient and communities and households need targeted investments to put new approaches into effect.

Component C: Institutional Strengthening and Project Management: This Component aims to improve the enabling institutional and policy foundations for multi-sectoral integrated landscape management as well as support project management.

2.0 JUSTIFICATION FOR A MANAGEMENT EFFECTIVENESS TRACKING TOOL (METT) TRAINING

The monitoring and evaluation of ACREsAL is guided by a Results Framework (RF). It is imperative that these indicators are properly monitored throughout the lifetime of the project to ensure that targeted results are being achieved over time, and that outcomes and impacts are achieved at the end of the project lifecycle. Monitoring includes establishing a number of variables per indicator including defining the frequency of data collection, defining responsible parties for data collection, and establishing baseline figures.

One of the RF indicators; “Land area under sustainable landscape management practices, disaggregated by practice (ha)” is further divided into five sub-indicators, including indicator PDOI 1.3; “Protected areas under improved management (ha).” This sub-indicator:

measures protected areas under improved management. Protected areas management refers to the assessment of how well protected areas are being managed considering context and planning, appropriateness of management systems and processes, and delivery of protected area objectives. The area of a targeted protected area will be considered to be under improved management when its METT score has increased by 40% (as compared to baseline values).

METT assessment training is needed to provide relevant ACREsAL States with trained employees that are able to perform METT assessments in their given states. These trainees will perform METT assessments at defined protected areas to establish baseline figures, project mid-term results, and end-of-project results.

3.0 OBJECTIVES OF THE ASSIGNMENT

The objective of this assignment is to train a cohort of participating ACREsAL State employees in performing the METT scorecard assessment so that they may competently lead METT assessments in various protected areas in states in Northern Nigeria.

4.0 SCOPE OF THE CONSULTANCY SERVICES

A firm will be engaged to train and evaluate a cohort of ACREsAL State employees in performing the METT assessment, and lead a real-life METT assessment in a participatory fashion with the trainees to ensure they are field-ready to lead the assessments in their home states.

Training will be provided to the cohorts on the latest version of the METT, METT-4.1 or later. Training will provide detailed contextual learning so that trained practitioners understand the sustainability and conservational aspirations of the tool, and are able to draw upon this knowledge to better ground their experiences leading assessments. Robust training will also be

provided on the two main section of the METT-4, datasheets and the assessment form. Training should be both theoretical, explaining and defining all key terms and concepts, as well as practical – leading trainees through a variety of simulated scenarios to put in practice their theoretical knowledge. Finally, training should include best practices for implementing the METT. Importantly, stakeholders of National Park Service and other entities will (may) be incorporated to conduct the METT activity.

Trainees’ knowledge of the METT will be evaluated through a robust, written assessment that includes both theoretical knowledge of concepts and a practical approach to processes and problem solving while performing the METT. Trainees that do not attain an agreed-upon mark on the assessment will be offered additional coaching and be provided with another chance to take the assessment.

Successful trainees will finally be led through an exercise to actually plan out and lead a METT assessment within the Federal Capital Territory with a protected area management unit and appropriate stakeholders as agreed to by the ACRoSAL Federal Project Management Unit (FPMU). A critique of the planning and assessment portions of this exercise will be offered to trainees to further consolidate and hone their knowledge.

5.0 DELIVERABLES

Training schedule

- A detailed schedule of training topics and practical exercises that trainees will follow.

Training

- A purpose-built training manual in both digital and paper-form that trainees and the FPMU will keep.
- Expert-led training of the ACRoSAL cohort

Assessment

- A written assessment evaluating knowledge of contextual information, theoretical concepts and principles, process-oriented information, and best practices for implementing the METT.
- Tests and test scores of trainees will be provided to the FPMU.

Practicum

- The consultant will lead a practical exercise where trainees plan and carry out a METT assessment with a protected area management unit and relevant stakeholders as required.
- Written critique of the group’s practicum performance.

6.0 TIMELINE

Expected Duration of the Assignment

The training, assessment and practicum shall be delivered one month after the signing of the contract. Furthermore, another assessment will be conducted before the mid-term review in 2025, these assessments should address the deliverables highlighted above.

6.1 Reporting and Supervision Arrangements

In all aspects of this assignment, the consultant will report to the National Project Coordinator. The consultant is to ensure proper monitoring to identify and correct any shortcomings in the implementation of the contract.

The completed training manual, tests, and any other written material generated during the training will be the property of the Federal Ministry of Environment, the Government of Nigeria. The consultant may not use the data for its own research purposes, nor license the data to be used by others, without the written consent of the Federal Ministry of Environment.

7.0 ESTIMATED COST OF ASSIGNMENT

It is expected that the cost of consultancy for the training and assessment will endure from signing of contract till the expected deliverables are achieved after the mid-term review of 2025.

7.1 PAYMENT SCHEDULE

On signing the contract	10%
Submission of Training schedule	10%
Training performed	20%
Assessment of trainee's knowledge and coaching	30%
Performance of participatory practicum	30%

8.0 SKILL AND EXPERIENCE REQUIRED

Technical proposal screening criteria for a consulting firm method will apply. The successful firm/consultant should be able to demonstrate that the company has extensive experience in implementing conservation-based training.

The firm should indicate their interest in providing the services, and should provide the following information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the services:

- i. Evidence showing the fields of the specialty of the consultant (consultant's profile/brochures)
- ii. Evidence of registration with relevant authorities and professional bodies.
- iii. Evidence showing the technical and managerial capabilities of the consultant in the field of assignment.
- iv. General experience of consultant services relating conservation-based training.
- v. Experience, working in similar domains.
- vi. Description of similar assignments.

- vii. Availability of appropriate skills among staff. For each previous consultancy conducted, the consultant shall provide the name and contact address of the client (office, e-mail address, and telephone number), date(s) of execution, name(s) of lead and associate firms, contract amount and financing sources.

9.0 QUALIFICATION/EVALUATION GUIDELINES & CRITERIA

The firm's selection shall be based on the following parameters and the scores will be allotted as indicated in the table below. The firm that secures the highest score will be recruited. The ideal firm should have experience with METT assessments. Direct experience with demonstrated working knowledge and expertise within the country context, especially Watershed Management Projects will be an advantage.

The selection shall be based on the following parameters:

Criteria	Proof required
Evidence showing that the firm is legal entity (certificate of registration)	Copy of certificate of incorporation with the CAC, Interim Registration Report (IRR) issued by Bureau of Public Procurement (BPP), Compliance with (Industrial Training Fund) ITF Act No. 19 of 2011, PENCOM and NSITF- ECS clearance certificate
Evidence showing the fields of the specialty of the consultant (consultant's profile/brochures)	Consultant's profile/brochures
Experience of working in a similar geographical region	Letter(s) of award and job completion certificates; Name and contact address of the client on previous assignment (office & e-mail address, and telephone number), date(s) of execution, name(s) of lead and associate firms, contract amount and financing sources
Experience performing METT assessments	Examples of studies performed
Experience with training - especially METT training	Examples of analysis performed and reports submitted
Availability of Professional Key Staff	CVs and copies of certificates and professional association membership
Evidence of registration with relevant authorities and professional bodies	Copies of Certificate of Registration

Evidence showing the technical and managerial capabilities of the consultant in the field of assignment	Consultant's profile/brochures
Financial Criteria	Three years (2020, 2021, 2022) Tax clearance certificate,
Brief description (not more than 2 pages) of the proposed Methodology of carrying out the scope of the work	Separate list to be attached.
Training costs	Cost sheet indicating component and final cost

10.0 SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION

Applications from qualified consultants must be delivered in written form to the address below (in person, or by mail, or by e-mail)

Agro-Climatic Resilience in Semi-Arid Landscapes (ACReSAL)

No. 16 Biodun Olorunfemi Street,

Wuye, Abuja

Attention: **(Abdulhamid Umar)**

11.0 REMUNERATION

The Remuneration of the consultant is attractive and commensurate with those offered by international bodies for similar assignments.