

## COPERNICEA PROJECT

“Regional Cooperation for New Indicators of Ecosystem Accounting in  
Africa – COPERNICEA”

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### TERMS OF REFERENCE

*FOR THE RECRUITMENT OF AN INTERNATIONAL EXPERT*

## SUPPORT TO TECHNICAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE PREPARATION OF ECOSYSTEM ACCOUNTS, COMMON STANDARDS AND TRAINING ON ECOSYSTEM NATURAL CAPITAL ACCOUNTING (ENCA)

**[AC/OSS/COPERNICEA\_EXPERT-INTER/260620-23]**

## 1-PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The "Regional COOPERation for New Indicators of Ecosystem Accounting in Africa" COPERNICEA project, is a regional initiative which aims to provide six African countries (Burkina Faso, Guinea-Conakry, Morocco, Niger, Senegal and Tunisia) with an operational and independent ecosystem accounting device (methods, tools, skills and organization) so that they can monitor their natural capital. This initiative also aims to establish a national and regional network for sharing and exchanging information and data useful and necessary for ENCA strengthening.

Funded by the French Development Agency (AFD), COPERNICEA is a pilot project whose actions are in line with international guidelines which encourage countries to set up national accounting systems taking account of economic and environmental elements. Its purpose is to help respond significantly to the sustainable development challenges in line with both the 2011-2020 strategic plan of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the 2030 sustainable development agenda, in particular through targets 15.9, 15.3 and 17.19 of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The COPERNICEA project actions are based on four main components:

1. Institutional strengthening and establishment of structures at regional and national levels;
2. Creation of the ENCA's operational infrastructure;
3. Capacity building of the operators involved in the process of preparing accounts;
4. Communication and integration of ecosystem accounts as indicators of sustainable development;

The project implementation is spread over a 4-year period (2020-2023) and is provided by an OSS-located Project Management Unit (PMU) and central technical cells of the six countries. They are supported by scientific institutions such as CIRAD, IRD and UQAM and work hand-in-hand with the ministries responsible for the Rio conventions in order to lay the foundations of national ecosystem accounting systems.

### EXPECTED RESULTS AND IMPACTS

The ENCA implementation will be secured in a coordinated way at three scales: the OSS sub-regional scale, the national scale and the specific zones, sites and sectors scale. All scales will be processed based on geographic information and tracked statistics. The national and especially local scales will benefit from more details than the sub-regional accounts.

The Sahara and Sahel sub-regional scale will be processed quickly using the data available at the OSS and in international databases, with the objectives of having a framework, a common language and first products to be proposed to national decision-makers in order to have them mobilized on a concrete target.

The national scale is that of development policies and plans. It requires as much the political decision-makers commitment as that of agencies in charge of the different areas affecting the ecosystem and the scientific and academic bodies whose active participation is crucial for the success of the project.

The subnational scale is that of priority actions in the countries. It will provide the deepening of the national ecosystem accounts required by the field action.

Due to the implementation of the same ENCA framework, the different scale accounts will remain consistent and will provide similar indicators, allowing same-scale entities' and cross-scale comparisons.

Capacity building, one of the project expected results, goes beyond training experts in charge of producing the first accounts. The political operators' ability to adopt the results of the accounts and have them integrated into decision-making mechanisms must be taken into account from the project start. Likewise, the society and in particular economic operators' ability to adopt the process will need the training structures, primarily universities and vocational education centres to be involved in the forestry, agronomy, management and statistics fields.

## 2-GENERAL PURPOSE OF THE MISSION

Under the supervision of the project manager in the Sahara and Sahel Observatory, the international expert will provide scientific advice and technical support for the development of the activities necessary to define a benchmark common geographic area and produce accounts at national and regional levels. His/her action will focus mainly on components 2, 3 and 4 of the project.

## 3-DESCRIPTION

In order to achieve the project objectives, the expert is expected to:

- Support the rapid adoption of ENCA methods for the production of simplified physical accounts on a sub-regional scale and then complete national scale accounts;
- Give advice on the data necessary for the production of ENCA accounts at sub-regional and national levels by validating their relevance;
- Give advice on the data for specific applications;
- Participate in the implementation of the ENCA central platform by validating the choices and facilitating the identification of external expertise;
- Provide technical training of the OSS experts and beneficiary partners on ENCA methods. Initial training may be replicated for the benefit of national experts and consultants working on projects at the country level;
- Make recommendations on ways and means for having University and vocational education involved in the training;
- Give advice on the production and presentation of direct and by-products of accounts in contribution to international obligations (e.g. SDGs indicators);
- Participate in the establishment and moderation of a permanent forum bringing together producers and stakeholders;
- Participate in writing ENCA-related notes and articles for internationally renowned journals.

## 4-PRODUCTS, DELIVERABLES AND DURATION OF THE MISSION

The total duration of the mission is estimated at 130 days spread over the 4-year period of the project as follows: 40 days for the first year, 40 days for the second year, 25 days for the third year and 25 days for the fourth year.

The training and deliverables will be provided in French. Some may be translated into English by the Expert. The working languages being French and English.

The tasks and deliverables the expert will have to provide are detailed in the following table:

Description of tasks	Estimated effort in Man / days	Expected products (deliverables)
Development of modules and moderation of an initial training on ENCA methods for the benefit of the PMU/OSS	20	Training KIT: PPT, modules, exercises, tutorials, etc.
Development of modules and moderation of training for the benefit of national experts and other involved consultants	10	Simplified ENCA Guide and Training Kit
Moderation of additional training sessions for previously trained experts	5	Training modules
Additional recommendation for taking over the ENCA training by universities and professional schools	5	A regional note on taking ENCA into account in the university environment
Development of a technical guide to choosing ENCA data	10	Technical guide to choosing ENCA data
Advice and assistance with the implementation of accounts (data, infrastructures, productions, etc.)	60	Reports of reviews and validation of regional and national accounts
Establishment and participation in the permanent ENCA forum moderation	10	Moderation of a permanent ENCA forum
Presentation of accounts by-products (indicators, summary notes ...)	10	ENCA-related scientific release for internationally renowned journals.

## 5-REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCES

*The international senior expert in charge of this mission must have the following qualifications:*

- Proven experience of at least 15 years in the development of ecosystem accounts and environmental indicators;
- In-depth knowledge of ENCA methods;
- A graduate degree (PhD or Master) in environment, finance, economics, or related field of study;
- Have led at least 3 training sessions in capacity building on developing ecosystem accounts;
- Have ENCA-related releases;
- French and English fluency (written and spoken);
- Priority will be given to applicants with professional experience in Africa.

## 6- APPLICATION FILE, SUBMISSION AND DEADLINE

Interested applicants will have to submit a separate technical and financial bid.

The application must include:

- **A technical bid including:**
  - A maximum 3-page methodological note explaining the applicant approach to provide the activities, the necessary educational tools as well as the support to the project management unit;
  - The expert detailed curriculum vitae; (use the standard OSS CV template downloadable at the following link): [[OSS CV Template](#)];
  - Supporting documents (diplomas, similar experience of the applicant and qualifications related to the assignment);
  - A cover letter demonstrating the skills and abilities of the expert to accomplish this mission;
  - Other references deemed useful.

- **A separate financial bid**

The bid must be detailed according to the number of man / days.

**Technical and financial bids must be sent separately marked: «Call for applications for an international expert: Support to technical activities for the preparation of ecosystem accounts and ENCA common geographic standards [AC / OSS / COPERNICEA\_EXPERT-INTER / 260620-23] » by email to the following address [procurement@oss.org.tn](mailto:procurement@oss.org.tn) no later than July 12, 2020 at 11.59pm (Tunis time).**

## 7-EVALUATION OF THE BID

Bids will be assessed on the following basis: 80% technical score; 20% financial score.

The evaluation of the technical bid will be as follows:

Criterion	Basis for score
<b>Understanding ToRs (I)</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Qualifications (II)</b>	<b>30</b>
Graduate degree (PhD-15 points or Master-12 points) in environment, finance, economics, or related field of study	15
Fluency in French (written and spoken)	10
Fluency in English (written and spoken)	5
<b>Experiences (III)</b>	<b>50</b>
Proven experience (at least 15 years) in the development of ecosystem accounts and environmental indicators (10 points if "at least 15 years proven" + 1 point per additional year of experience)	15
In-depth knowledge of ENCA methods	10
Have led at least 3 training sessions in capacity building on developing ecosystem accounts	10
Knowledge of Africa	5
ENCA-related releases	10
<b>TOTAL (I)+(II)+(III)</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Minimum technical qualification</b>	<b>&gt;75</b>