**FAO_black_20**

**Food and Agriculture organization of the United Nations**

### **Terms of Reference for PSA.EDI \***

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| **Name:** |  | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Job Title\*\*:** | | |  | | | | | | | | |
| **Division/Department:** | | | | | NSAG | | | | | | |
| **Programme/Project Number:** | | | | | |  | | | | | |
| **Duty Station:** | | | Home-based | | | | | | | | |
| **Expected Start Date of Assignment:** | | | | | | |  | **Duration:** | | 30 days | |
| **Reports to:** | | ***Name:*** | |  | | | | **Title:** |  | | |
| \* Please note: If this TOR is for Consultant / PSA.SBS contract, the minimum relevant experience required **for the assignment** is as follows:   |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | 1 year for a category C | 5 years for a category B X | 12 years for a category A |   \*\* Please enter a short title (max 25 chars) for this assignment. | | | | | | | | | | | |
| General Description of task(s) and objectives to be achieved | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **I. Background:**  Drylands constitute 41 percent of the global land area and are significant parts of all continents. They are the home and lifeline to more than 38 percent of the total global population **–** an estimated 2.7 billion people, most of whom are in low-income countries**.** Drylands are home to more than half of the world’s livestock and host 27 percent of the world’s forests and woodlands (FAO, 2019a; FAO, 2020a).  In its Special Report on Land and Climate Change, the IPCC (2019) highlights that better land management, including many options available to drylands, can be effective for climate change adaptation, with mitigation co-benefits. Additional benefits include reducing biodiversity loss and contributing to overall socio-economic development. This is well in line with the report of the 25th Session of the Committee on Forestry, which encouraged FAO to explore innovative ways to improve the interconnection between sustainable agriculture and sustainable forest management to halt the deforestation and to prevent the loss of biodiversity. Moreover, the Committee on Agriculture in its 27th session acknowledged the important role of rangelands and pastoralism in contributing to national economies and supporting the livelihoods and food security of millions of people, as well as the ecosystem services they provide, particularly in arid and semiarid land and mountainous areas.  Halting Deforestation is of particular importance, as it provides support to local communities usually exposed to poverty. While the grasslands and croplands are the most dominant land-use types, integrated agro-pastoral and silvo-pastoral land use, utilizing forests and trees, are crucial for supporting human livelihoods. Livestock benefit forest and agrosilvopastoral ecosystem conservation by providing regulating ecosystem services, such as seed dispersal, maintenance of natural productive soils, reservoirs of biological diversity, and prevention of wildfires, avalanches and bush encroachment. With adequate grazing management, pastoral systems can also contribute to soil carbon sequestration.  NSAG and NFOD (the Forestry department – Dryland Forest) will work closely to support the development of a technical paper on the role of sustainable livestock management to ramp down the deforestation and the degradation of agrosilvopastoral systems in dryland regions. Specifically, the paper will analyze the elements a life-cycle assessment should include, taking into consideration the dryland challenges such as water availability and water productivity, soil organic carbon stocks, nutrients availability and soil health.  **II. Specific Tasks:**  Under the direct supervision of the livestock development officer and the forestry officer, the incumbent will perform the following tasks:   1. Assess the existing knowledge and experience in FAO, based on a complication of publications and reports of projects in forest drylands and agrosilvopastoral systems. 2. Identify gaps and data needed to ensure the value addition of the proposed paper. 3. Prepare a revised version of the concept note, including a discussion of possible gaps and needs for better understanding of the role of livestock in halting the deforestation and restore the agrosilvopastoral systems. 4. Prepare the outlines of the technical paper and the work plan for its elaboration. 5. Prepare a list of potential case studies on the role of livestock in halting the deforestation and restore the agrosilvopastoral systems, and a template to collect them in a consistent (standard) manner.   **III. Technical Skills:**   * Experience in applying knowledge of concepts and approaches related to technical research on livestock and forest management. * Knowledge of livestock and agrosilvopastoral  management, in particular in dryland areas. * Good analytical skills on the integrated landscape management including forests, trees  and rangeland  in particular in dryland areas | | | | | | | | | | | |
| key performance indicators | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Expected Outputs: | | | | | | | | | | | Required Completion Date: |
| 1. Report of the assessment of FAO knowledge and experience on the role of livestock in halting the deforestation and restore the agrosilvopastoral systems.  2. Revised concept note, outlines of the technical paper and work plan for its elaboration.  3. List of potential case studies and template to collect them. | | | | | | | | | | | 15 Mars 2021  30 March 2021  30 March 2021 |