

Advice on Climate Change Coverage

in the ToR for a consultancy for formulating an EKN grant
proposal for LODA, Ministry for Local Government

RWANDA



14 March 2016

Advisory Report by the Dutch Sustainability Unit

Subject: Advice on Climate Change coverage in the ToR for a consultancy for formulating an EKN grant proposal for LODA, Ministry for Local Government, Rwanda

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Reference: 7194

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1. Introduction

1.1 The activity

Rwanda has embarked on new Economic Development and Poverty Reduction Strategy in 2012. Decentralization has started earlier, in the year 2000. At decentral level, the Government of Rwanda adopted a Local Economic Development and Community Development Strategy that helps districts deal with multi-stakeholder processes for developing their local economies and reduce poverty. Since 2008, the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands supports the Rwanda local economic development program, that focusses on development of local infrastructure, in line with the GOR Local Economic Development Community Development Strategy 2013–2018. The program is administered by the Local Development Agency (LODA), under the Ministry of Local Government. The second term of EKN support ends in 2016 and an end-evaluation and impact evaluation are being carried out. The Netherlands and Rwanda intend to extend the support to the program and, hence, the EKN has drafted a ToR for a consultancy that must develop the Grant Proposal for LODA to be submitted to the Netherlands Embassy in Rwanda in four years coming July 2016 – June 2020).

1.2 The request to the DSU

The EKN requested the DSU to assess whether climate change issues are sufficiently addressed in these draft ToR.

1.3 The approach

The Draft ToR is not a stand-alone document. It cannot be understood without knowledge of the context. Therefore the DSU did have a look at the BEMO for the 2008–2012 tranche of the Local Demand Driven Investments Projects project and did some internet search on what is LODA before formulating this advice.

2. Observations

2.1 On the context

It became clear to the DSU that the ToR does not require the consultant to develop a proposal that includes (and details) all projects that together make up for the spending of 30 million euro's. Rather, the ToR ask the consultant to detail de conditions under which LODA can allocate the funds made available by the Netherlands to projects proposed by local governments.

It also became clear that LODA is an institution with an institutional apparatus that allocates the funds by carrying out the functions mentioned under the heading 'background' of the draft ToR. From the BEMO the DSU further deduces that LODA accompanies the formulation (by districts) of Local Economic Development (LED) proposals and has the competence to approve or reject (funding) such proposals. The LED portfolio under EKN funding includes a considerable number of projects:

The 2008–2012 “program support with EKN contributed to the implementation of 391 local demand driven projects at district level across different categories of which 30% were road Infrastructure, 6% electrification, 22% income generation; Administrative buildings; 5% Agriculture and Environment; 8% Education; 5% health Infrastructure; 4% water and sanitation; 1% covering related studies”.

From the draft ToR DSU learns that LODA must also work on developing planning and administrative capacity in these local authorities.

2.2 On how Climate Change is addressed in the draft ToR

On 3 locations the ToR instruct to work on climate change:

page 3: 'analyze the climate change context'

page 3: 'integrate climate change in the program description'

page 4: Climate change is one of the two main issues for formulating indicators for monitoring

Observing that in general climate change has impacts on infrastructure projects and that infrastructure projects impact on climate change (through GHG emissions), DSU argues that climate change effects should be considered in the design of infrastructure projects.

The DSU has the opinion that the ToR should give requirements relating to climate change that are specific enough to guarantee that the resulting grant proposal makes clear how the EKN funded grant portfolio as a whole, and the individual infrastructure projects in the portfolio, will be climate smart.

The DSU concludes that with the three phrases mentioned above, Climate Change issues are not adequately covered in the draft ToR. The next chapter advises on how to improve Climate Change coverage in the ToR.

3. Advice

- On the basis of the climate change context analysis¹ asked for in the present draft ToR (an analysis done for e.g. the next 30–50 years) the DSU advises to task the consultancy with developing a set of climate change targets on mitigation (reduction of Green House Gas emissions and/ or sequestration of GhG) and climate change adaptation that LODA must use in portfolio planning and in designing/ approving / implementing and monitoring the projects it finances with EKN funds;
- Task the consultancy to do an assessment of the capacity within LODA to perform climate smart designing of: 1) the EKN funded program portfolio (as a whole); 2) climate smart designing of the infrastructure development projects under the funding proposals of the districts and 3) adequate monitoring of the climate smartness of the portfolio and the projects. If LODA capacities on climate change issues prove insufficient to guarantee a climate smart portfolio and climate smart projects, DSU recommends to require development of such capacity within LODA.

¹ See for additional climate change information for Rwanda also the DSU's Climate Change Profile for Rwanda at http://api.commissiener.nl/docs/os/i71/i7152/climate_change_profile_rwanda.pdf