

## **GENERAL SCOPE OF WORK**

### **USAID Wadata Program (Niger)**

**NCBA CLUSA seeks a consultant(s) for an internal evaluation of the Community Based Service Provider component within a USAID/BHA Resilience and Food Security program in Niger. The consultancy duration is expected to be up to 40 days LOE to be completed over the months of March – April 2023**

#### **BACKGROUND**

The “Wadata” project aims to sustainably improve the food security and resilience of extremely poor and chronically vulnerable households in the Zinder region, through layered interventions targeted at communities, households and individuals. The project is funded by USAID/Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (BHA). It is implemented by a consortium of organizations including Save the Children, NCBA CLUSA, The Kaizen Company, and DEMI-E (Développement pour un Mieux-Être). The Wadata program has the following main purposes:

- 1: Enhanced collective action to address food, nutrition and water security shocks and stresses.
- 2: Increased capacities and assets for improved access to adequate and diverse food at all times.
- 3: Improved nutrition, health, hygiene and sanitation of pregnant and lactating women, adolescents, and children under five years of age, and their families.

Wadata is implementing technical support to community-based service providers (CBSPs) and community-based organizations with the aim of promoting sustainable change through community-led strategies. CBSPs (133) provide services in five areas: livestock, agriculture, rural microfinance, hygiene and sanitation, general (repairers, etc).

#### **PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES FOR THIS CONSULTANCY**

Purpose: Evaluate the CBSP component of Wadata, with an emphasis on sustainability actions to strengthen and expand reach and effectiveness.

##### Objectives:

1. Review and describe Wadata’s CBSP development approach and identify the priority areas for support to CBSPs for the remaining life of the project, in order to promote sustainability of this sub-activity.
2. Identify areas for strengthening and synergy (identifying challenges, successes and opportunities).
3. Explore the potential for further scaling the number of CBSPs, their ability to continue operating independently, and numbers of communes and community members that they serve.
4. Provide key recommendations and observations.

##### Approach:

- Survey and key informant interviews: The consultant will conduct and/or supervise direct interviews with CBSPs the specific needs of each category. The consultant will conduct key

informant interviews with a selection of staff and stakeholders, identified in collaboration with Wadata project staff.

- Priority areas identification: Propose priority areas of support for each category of CBSPs to for strengthening and synergy (identifying challenges, successes and opportunities).

- Operational impact: Explore the potential for further scaling the number of CBSPs, their ability to continue operating independently, and numbers of communes and community members that they serve. Specifically, propose an operational sustainability approach to CBSPs networking for greater impact.

- Recommendations: Summarize recommendations and work areas for Wadata to ensure that CBSPs continue to provide products and services to their communities, after the end of the Wadata project.

### **REQUIRED WORK PROFILE / EXPERIENCE**

- Knowledge of and experience with community based service providers in operational settings;
- Practical experience in promoting synergies with the private sector in Sahelian countries;
- Strong capacity to listen to local actors, and able to facilitate multi-stakeholder dialogue and solutions development
- Open to innovative approaches and able to identify challenges and opportunities in a participatory and inclusive manner
- Experience in supervising data collection, and in synthesizing and analyzing results
- Ability to travel and stay for the duration of the assignment in Zinder region of Niger
- Experience in the Sahel, Niger preferred
- French fluency and able to write summary reports in French and English.

### **DELIVERABLES AND DUE DATES**

The consultant will complete the following deliverables during this assignment to meet the above noted purpose and objectives:

<b>Description of Deliverable</b>	<b>Format</b>	<b>Language</b>	<b>Due Date / LOE</b>
<b>#1.</b> Adaptation of proposed methodology (survey test) and development of logistic plan / orientation with Wadata team.	Electronic	French (and English for reporting, as needed)	Week 1 / 6 days
<b>#2.</b> Synthesis of CBSPs and key informant interviews, summarizing identifying priority areas for support	Electronic	French (and English for reporting, as needed)	Week 2-4 / 18 days
<b>#3.</b> Develop operational sustainability approach, with a focus on focus on CBSP networking.	Electronic	French (and English for reporting, as needed)	Week 5 / 8 days

Description of Deliverable	Format	Language	Due Date / LOE
#4. Presentation of findings and recommendations to the Wadata Team, and development of a summary report (incorporating revisions based on feedback from Wadata team).	Electronic	French (and English for reporting, as needed)	Week 5-7 / 8 days

**SCHEDULE**

The assignment will be completed during March and April 2023

**COORDINATION**

Collaboration with Wadata and NCBA CLUSA staff: The consultant will receive input from NCBA CLUSA staff regarding methodology, draft questionnaire and key informant interview topics, as well as review of analysis and evaluation report. Supervision will be provided by the Wadata Deputy Program Manager. The Wadata CBSP Coordinator will provide logistical support and assist in coordination and outreach for field interviews, as well as serving as a key informant.

Key contacts: Alain Ky-Zerbo, Deputy Chief of Party, Wadata, and Ina Schonberg, CLUSA HQ.

Consultant will be responsible for/provide their own laptops and electronic needs (flash drives, etc). While NCBA CLUSA will make travel arrangements and cover air travel as needed.

**Important NOTE:** To be considered, applicants shall send CV to [aky-zerbo@ncbaclusa.net](mailto:aky-zerbo@ncbaclusa.net) as soon as possible with the subject line “WADATA Consultancy CBSP evaluation”. CVs will be reviewed on a rolling basis. Qualified individuals will be contacted directly.

## ANNEX 1 – Information on WADATA’s CBSP Component

To date, the Wadata program has supported the establishment and capacity building of CBSPs in several categories, as follows:

Commune	CBSP- élevage	CBSP- agricoles	CBSP- Facilitateurs MMD	CBSP- Hygiène A	CBSP- AR	Total
Guidiguir	9	10	7	6	6	38
Guidimouni	10	10	7	6	6	39
Mazamni	4	4	3	3	3	17
DTK	10	10	7	6	6	39
Total	33	34	24	21	21	133

- 33 CBSP-livestock (livestock auxiliaries) ;
- 34 CBSP-agriculture
- 76 rural microfinance CBSPs (Mata Masu Dubara / Women’ saving group (MMD) facilitators)
- 50 CBSPs in the field of hygiene and sanitation (e.g., the "sanitation" CBSPs)
- 31 CBSP-repair artisans

The process of identifying CBSPs working in the area of health and nutrition is underway. The capacity building support provided by the Wadata program to CBSPs includes:

- Technical capacity building on technical skills:
  - Training on the Conservation Farming (CF) technology package, improved market gardening techniques and the installation and management of horticultural nurseries;
  - Training on the 10 essential modules for the installation of AEs in accordance with the regulations in force;
  - Training on the MMD guide, income generating activities (IGA) management and network strategy, activity planning;
  - Construction of flat slab latrines
  - Construction of latrines with integrated SATO
  - Training of RAs in pump maintenance.
- Capacity building in management:
  - Training in partnership and negotiation techniques;
  - Training in simplified accounting
  - Training in business development and marketing;
  - Training in financial literacy.
- Linking CBSPs with firms and input suppliers:
  - Linking CBSP-livestock with livestock communals and approved suppliers of veterinary products (CAMAVET and PHARCAVET);
  - Linking CBSP-Agriculture with 6 suppliers of agricultural inputs;
  - Linking CBSP-WASH (Artisans repairers and CBSPs in the field of hygiene and sanitation) with suppliers of materials and equipment for pump repair and latrine construction;

- Connecting CBSPs with clients (MMDs, FMNRs, etc.);
- Establishing contact with the MFI Yarda;
- Linking MMD facilitators with the USAID/CATALYSE facilitator.

In addition, local coaching is available on regular basis for all CBSPs, and support for formalization (obtaining a Trade Register and Personal Property Credit) has been provided to 18 of the most successful CBSPs. Most of the CBSPs also received small equipment (small kits, work tools) to help them better establish their business.

These different actions made possible the establishment of a pool of CBSPs that are operational in the communes of DTK, Mazamni, Guidiguir & Guidimouni.

Currently, CBSPs are facing the following challenges:

- Competition from providers offering cheaper and unlicensed products;
- Poorly developed address book of suppliers, limiting the possibility of diversification and price negotiation at the source.
- The operation of CBSP pools on an individual basis (the philosophy of network operation is not well established).
- Need for further efforts in the identification of additional challenges, as well as opportunities that can be developed further, and a comprehensive analysis on strengths, weaknesses and operational capacity of CBSPs.

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