



## **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

### **CARRY OUT POLITICAL ECONOMY AND INVESTMENT ANALYSIS OF THE SESSAME SUBSECTOR IN UGANDA**

April 2021

## Introduction

The Southern and Eastern Africa Trade Information and Negotiations Institute (SEATINI-Uganda) is a regional non-governmental organisation founded in 1996 soon after the WTO Singapore Ministerial Conference, after realising that Africa in particular and Third World countries in general were marginalized in the WTO negotiations and other global processes. Today, SEATINI Uganda works to promote pro development Trade, Fiscal and trade related policies for sustained equitable development and improved livelihoods in Uganda and the EAC region.

SEATINI Uganda with financial support from the Department for International Development's (DFID) **Commercial Agriculture for Smallholders and Agribusiness (CASA) programme** is implementing a one year project titled "**Addressing barriers in the regulatory environment leading to an inclusive sesame sector**". The overall objective of the project is to "promote competitiveness of sesame value chain actors in Uganda and the EAC region".

SEATINI Uganda has planned to carry out a political economy and investment analysis of the sesame subsector in Uganda. This is therefore to seek the services of a consultant to conduct this analysis.

## Background

Sesame is one of the 'upcoming' oil seed crops in Uganda that is enjoying increasing demand on the regional and global market as the crop exports fetched a total of USD 13 billion in 2019 for Uganda. Despite an increase in sesame production and exports, stakeholders<sup>1</sup> along the sesame value chain are not adequately benefitting from the lucrative market especially at the international level because they are not growing large volumes of high-quality sesame. It is noticed that of the total sesame produced in Uganda, 77 % is sold while 42 % is exported, 10 % is sold to urban consumers, and 25 % is sold to rural consumers. This implies that only half of the sesame that is produced leaves the production regions to regional and export markets<sup>1</sup>.

Over the past 4 years, SEATINI Uganda, an organization working to promote agricultural trade at national, regional and global levels has made efforts to promote standardization of grains including sesame so as to increase access to market for key actors along the sesame value chains. Some of the actions of SEATINI included working with UNBS in the development of the Sesame standard which was launched MTIC in 2016.

## Rationale for the political economy and investment analysis

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<sup>1</sup> The sesame value chain is composed of various actors who include producers, traders at different administrative levels (sub-county, county, district and regional levels), transporters, small-scale and large-scale processors and exporters.

Ugandan sesame producers often find it difficult to meet sanitary and phyto-sanitary standards, required to export goods to North America and Europe. The export sector of Uganda is poorly funded, involving small and under-capitalized companies, which cannot support the farmers. Moreover, exports are majorly limited to some European countries and nearby African countries, like, Kenya, Rwanda, Democratic Republic of Congo, and South Sudan. The sector itself also faces several challenges from the farm level which may include: lack of equipment for land preparation, that leads to late planting; crop losses from pests and diseases, which reduces yields; non-availability of seed; and labor, particularly for weeding the crop which is sown broadcast; climate change which leads to decline in quality and quantity available for sale, leading to high fluctuations in farm-gate prices and unsupportive policy environment.

### **Purpose of the political economy and investment analysis**

The purpose of the political economy and investment analysis of the Sesame subsector is to provide information to sesame farmers and other value chain actors on opportunities and best practices for sesame production, value addition and marketing. The analysis will also generate proposals for improving the regulatory framework for Sesame production, value addition and marketing so as to inform policy and practice change.

### **Specific Objectives**

1. To explore the current practices in terms of production, value addition and marketing of Sesame in Uganda.
2. To assess the existing regulatory framework for Sesame production, value addition and marketing at global, regional, national and subnational levels.
3. To investigate the trade dynamics at national, regional and global levels and how they influence marketing of Sesame.

### **Methodology**

The proposed analysis will take a three prolonged approach:

- Desk review and synthesis of exiting literature on the performance of the sesame subsector and the existing regulatory framework.
- Conduct direct consultations with key stakeholders including farmers, distributors, processors and traders to understand existing opportunities and challenges in production, value addition and marketing of Sesame at all levels.
- Facilitation of a validation meeting to share issues generated from the analysis and generate proposals for policy and practice change.

### **Key deliverables**

- A situation analysis report
- Policy brief with recommendations on promoting the sesame subsector in Uganda

### Time Frame

No	Activity	Time frame (March)
1	Expression of Interest	16 <sup>th</sup> April 2021
2	Selection of consultant by SEATINI & CASA	23 <sup>rd</sup> April 2021
3	Inception meeting	26 <sup>th</sup> April 2021
4	Data collection	27 <sup>th</sup> April to 7 <sup>th</sup> May 2021
5	Submission of draft report	10 <sup>th</sup> May 2021
6	Feedback by SEATINI on the draft	12 <sup>th</sup> May 2021
7	Submission of final report by consultant	16 <sup>th</sup> May 2021

### Consultant qualifications

The consultant should have demonstrated experience in political economy of the agricultural sector in Uganda. Experience in conducting similar studies is an added advantage.

### Submission of proposal

Interested firms submit their technical and financial proposals addressed to the Executive Director: SEATINI Uganda, P.O. Box 3138, Kampala, Uganda, Plot 806. Block 213. Bukoto – Kisaasi Road or email: [info@seatiniuganda.org](mailto:info@seatiniuganda.org), [indagire@seatiniuganda.org](mailto:indagire@seatiniuganda.org) by **Friday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2021**.

The technical proposal should include the proposed methodology, the qualifications of the consultant and referees for previous similar work done in the past. The financial proposal should highlight the expected fee for the work. (Technical and Financial proposal should be presented in one envelope).

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<sup>1</sup> International Crops Research Institute for the semi-Arid Tropics