27th August 2026

TERMS OF REFERENCE (ToRs)

Consultancy to Profile, Document and Validate Best Practices from Financial Initiatives and Models Supporting the Scaling of Regenerative Agriculture and Productive Use of Renewable Energy (RA-PURE) Enterprises under the Power for Food Partnership (PFP) Programme

1.0 Background and Context

The Advocacy Coalition for Sustainable Agriculture (ACSA) is a legally registered national network of civil society organisations (CSOs) working with smallholder farmers to promote sustainable agriculture, agricultural market development, environmental conservation, research and policy advocacy in Uganda. Through its network of 30 member organisations spread across the country, ACSA strengthens the capacity of civil society actors, promotes evidence-based policy engagement and supports initiatives that improve the livelihoods of smallholder farmers. ACSA's mandate is "Advocating for the agrarian policy environment for smallholder farmers in Uganda", with its key focus areas including advocacy and lobbying, research and documentation, capacity strengthening, networking and partnership building.

ACSA is implementing activities under the Power for Food Partnership (PFP) Programme, which is convened by SNV and funded by the IKEA Foundation. The programme promotes the integration of Regenerative Agriculture (RA) and Productive Use of Renewable Energy (PURE) as pathways for strengthening resilient, inclusive and climate-smart agri-food systems in Uganda. Within the programme framework, ACSA contributes to practice-based learning, evidence generation, stakeholder coordination and documentation of approaches that support the adoption and scaling of RA-PURE solutions through collaboration with civil society organisations, farmer networks, academic institutions, private-sector actors, financial service providers and local government structures.

Access to appropriate and affordable financing remains a major factor influencing the ability of smallholder farmers and agricultural enterprises to adopt regenerative agriculture practices and invest in productive use of renewable energy technologies. While various financing mechanisms exist, including SACCOs, VSLAs, government-supported financing programmes, commercial bank agricultural products, microfinance services and private-sector financing arrangements, limited documentation exists on models that have effectively supported investment in RA-PURE enterprises.

To address this gap, ACSA seeks to engage a qualified consultant or consulting firm to profile, document and validate best practices from financial initiatives and models that have supported the scaling of RA-PURE enterprises. The assignment will assess financing approaches, governance arrangements, financial products and institutional practices that enable farmers and agricultural enterprises to access finance for agricultural production, value addition, post-harvest management, processing, market access and renewable energy investments.

The consultancy will be in the implementation districts of **Mpigi, Kayunga, Masaka, Kabarole, Kasese and Mubende,** and will involve consultations with financial institutions, SACCOs, VSLAs, government programmes, farmers and farmer organisations, district and sub-county local government technical staff, private-sector providers of PURE solutions, PFP partners and other relevant stakeholders. The findings will inform the development of practical knowledge products, including case studies and a financing models toolkit, to support learning and replication of effective financing approaches for RA-PURE enterprises.

2.0 Purpose of the Consultancy

The purpose of this consultancy is to profile, document and validate best practices from financial initiatives and models that have supported the scaling of RA-PURE enterprises among Power for Food Partnership partners and other relevant stakeholders.

The consultancy will assess the effectiveness, accessibility, sustainability and scalability of different financing mechanisms, including community-based financing models, government-supported financing initiatives and formal financial sector products. These will include Savings and Credit Cooperative Organisations (SACCOs), Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLAs), the Parish Development Model (PDM), Emyooga, Agriculture Cluster Development Project (ACDP), Uganda Intergovernmental Fiscal Transfers Programme (UGiFT), commercial bank agricultural financing products, microfinance services and other relevant financing arrangements.

The assignment will generate evidence on financing approaches, governance systems, institutional arrangements and financial products that have enabled smallholder farmers and agricultural enterprises to access finance for agricultural production, value addition, processing, post-harvest handling, market access and investment in productive use of renewable energy technologies. The findings will be documented into practical knowledge products, including case studies and a financing models toolkit, which will be validated with relevant stakeholders to ensure accuracy, relevance and applicability.

The validated findings will provide ACSA, PFP partners and other stakeholders with evidence on effective financing approaches that can support increased access to finance and scaling of RA-PURE enterprises within and beyond the programme implementation areas.

3.0 Specific Objectives of the Consultancy

The specific objectives of this consultancy are to:

1. **Profile existing financial initiatives and models** that support access to finance for agricultural enterprises and RA-PURE investments in the six PFP implementation

districts of **Mpigi, Kayunga, Masaka, Kabarole, Kasese and Mubende**, including community-based financing mechanisms, government-supported financing programmes, formal financial institutions and private-sector financing arrangements.

2. **Assess the effectiveness, accessibility, sustainability and responsiveness of existing financing models** in addressing the financial needs of smallholder farmers, agricultural enterprises and organisations seeking to invest in regenerative agriculture practices and productive use of renewable energy technologies.
3. **Examine the suitability of available agricultural and renewable energy financing products** in supporting different investment needs, including agricultural production, value addition, post-harvest handling, processing, market access, equipment acquisition and adoption of PURE technologies such as solar irrigation, solar drying, biogas and other renewable energy solutions.
4. **Analyse governance structures, institutional arrangements and operational practices** that influence the performance of selected financing models, including financial management systems, sources of capital, loan structures, repayment mechanisms, risk management approaches, inclusion of women, youth and other vulnerable groups, and alignment of financing products with agricultural production cycles.
5. **Document effective practices, challenges, lessons learned and opportunities for scaling** from selected financial initiatives and models that have demonstrated potential to support farmers, agricultural enterprises and organisations to access and utilise finance for RA-PURE investments.
6. **Develop practical knowledge products**, including case studies and a financing models toolkit, that capture successful financing approaches, key design features, lessons learned and recommendations that can support adaptation and replication of effective financing models in similar agricultural contexts.
7. **Validate the documented findings and knowledge products with relevant stakeholders** to ensure accuracy, relevance and applicability to the PFP implementation context and future scaling of RA-PURE enterprises.

4.0 Geographical Scope

The consultancy will be undertaken in the six Power for Food Partnership (PFP) implementation districts of **Mpigi, Kayunga, Masaka, Kabarole, Kasese and Mubende**. The consultant will ensure adequate representation of stakeholders from all six districts to capture diverse experiences, financing approaches, agricultural value chains and contextual factors influencing access to finance for Regenerative Agriculture (RA) and Productive Use of Renewable Energy (PURE) enterprises.

The consultant will work closely with ACSA to identify and engage relevant stakeholders in each district, ensuring that the assessment reflects perspectives from financial service providers, farmers, farmer organisations, local government structures, private-sector actors and other institutions involved in agricultural financing and renewable energy solutions. The consultant will ensure that variations in financing models, availability of financial services, adoption of renewable energy technologies and enterprise development experiences across the six districts are adequately captured.

5.0 Stakeholder Coverage

The consultancy will involve consultations with stakeholders at national, programme, district, sub-county and community levels to ensure a comprehensive assessment of financing initiatives, financial products, institutional arrangements and experiences of both providers and users of financial services supporting agricultural enterprises and RA-PURE investments. The consultant will ensure adequate representation of relevant stakeholders across all six PFP implementation districts of **Mpigi, Kayunga, Masaka, Kabarole, Kasese and Mubende**. The stakeholder engagement process will capture perspectives from financing providers, users of financial services, government actors, private-sector actors, farmer organisations and other institutions supporting agricultural enterprise development and renewable energy adoption.

The consultant will engage the following stakeholder categories:

- **National and Programme Level:** At the national and programme level, the consultant will engage the Advocacy Coalition for Sustainable Agriculture (ACSA), as the implementing partner responsible for coordinating the consultancy under the Power for Food Partnership (PFP) Programme; SNV, as the organisation convening the Power for Food Partnership Programme; PFP partners involved in implementing RA-PURE activities; relevant government agencies involved in agricultural development, financial inclusion, renewable energy promotion, enterprise development and agricultural financing programmes; financial institutions, including commercial banks, microfinance institutions and other providers of agricultural and enterprise financing products; renewable energy sector associations, technology providers and other relevant actors supporting the development and financing of productive use of renewable energy solutions in agriculture.
- **District Level:** At the district level, the consultant will engage district production and marketing departments, district commercial officers, district community development officers, district natural resources and environment officers, district planning units, financial institutions, SACCOs, microfinance institutions and other financing providers operating within the districts. The consultant will also engage private-sector providers of RA-PURE solutions, renewable energy technologies and agricultural equipment, farmer organisations, producer groups and other agricultural value chain actors involved in production, processing, value addition and market access. These stakeholders will provide information on local financing opportunities, institutional arrangements, implementation experiences and factors influencing access to finance among farmers and agricultural enterprises.
- **Sub-county and Community Level:** At the sub-county and community levels, the consultant will engage sub-county chiefs and other local administrative leaders, agricultural extension officers, community development officers, parish chiefs, Parish Development Model (PDM) structures, SACCO and VSLA leaders, smallholder farmers, farmer groups, agricultural enterprises, women and youth groups, RA-PURE champions, Learning Centres, and users and potential users of renewable energy technologies for agricultural production, irrigation, processing, post-harvest handling, storage and value addition. These consultations will provide practical experiences on the accessibility, suitability and effectiveness of different financing

models in supporting agricultural enterprises and investment in RA-PURE technologies.

- The stakeholder engagement process will also include consultations with community-based financial organisations, including Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLAs), farmer savings groups, cooperative groups and other community financing mechanisms that support access to finance for smallholder farmers and rural enterprises. The consultant will assess their governance systems, operational practices, financing approaches and contribution to improving access to agricultural finance.
- The consultant will engage relevant government-supported financing initiatives and institutions, including representatives involved in programmes such as the Parish Development Model (PDM), Emyooga, Agriculture Cluster Development Project (ACDP), Uganda Intergovernmental Fiscal Transfers Programme (UGiFT) and other relevant agricultural financing interventions. Consultations will examine implementation approaches, financing structures, beneficiary access, sustainability and opportunities for strengthening support to RA-PURE enterprises.
- The consultant will also engage private-sector actors providing PURE solutions, including companies and service providers involved in solar-powered solutions, irrigation systems, solar drying, biogas systems, energy-efficient processing equipment and other productive energy applications. These consultations will examine linkages between financing providers and technology providers, affordability of renewable energy solutions and opportunities for improving access to finance for adoption of PURE technologies.
- Additional stakeholders may be consulted based on their relevance to the assignment, including academic and research institutions, development partners, market actors and other organisations supporting financial inclusion, agricultural innovation and sustainable food systems. The consultant will determine the most appropriate stakeholders to engage during the inception phase, in consultation with ACSA, to ensure adequate representation across the six implementation districts and the different financing models under assessment.

6.0 Detailed Tasks and Responsibilities of the Consultant

The selected consultant or consulting firm will be responsible for undertaking the following tasks:

1. **Develop an inception plan and methodology**: The consultant will prepare an inception report outlining the understanding of the assignment, proposed methodology, assessment framework, data collection approaches, stakeholder engagement plan, work plan and timelines. The inception report will guide the implementation of the consultancy and ensure alignment with ACSA and PFP expectations.

2. **Conduct desk review and stakeholder mapping**: The consultant will review relevant documents, studies, reports, policies and existing information related to agricultural finance, financial inclusion, renewable energy financing, enterprise development and

financing models supporting smallholder farmers. The consultant will identify key stakeholders, including financial institutions, government programmes, farmer organisations, private-sector actors and other relevant institutions to be engaged during the assignment.

3. **Develop data collection tools and undertake field assessments**: The consultant will design appropriate data collection tools and conduct field assessments in the six PFP implementation districts of Mpigi, Kayunga, Masaka, Kabarole, Kasese and Mubende. The assessments will involve consultations with financial service providers, farmers, farmer organisations, government technical staff, private-sector actors, PFP partners and other relevant stakeholders to gather information on financing models, products, experiences and outcomes.

4. **Assess financial initiatives, products and models**: The consultant will analyse different financing mechanisms, including SACCOs, VSLAs, government-supported financing initiatives, commercial bank agricultural financing products, microfinance services and private-sector financing arrangements. The assessment will examine financing products such as agricultural production loans, agribusiness loans, equipment and asset financing, renewable energy financing, value addition financing, post-harvest financing and market access financing, considering their accessibility, affordability, sustainability and suitability for RA-PURE enterprises.

5. **Analyse governance systems and operational practices**: The consultant will assess governance structures, institutional arrangements, financial management practices, risk management approaches, loan management systems, repayment mechanisms and other operational factors that contribute to the effectiveness and sustainability of selected financing models. The assessment should also consider the participation of women, youth and other relevant groups in accessing and benefiting from financing opportunities.

6. **Document successful financing models and lessons learned**: The consultant will identify and document successful financing initiatives through structured case studies capturing the background, financing approach, governance arrangements, implementation experiences, results achieved, challenges, lessons learned and opportunities for replication and scaling.

7. **Develop knowledge products**: The consultant will prepare practical knowledge products, including case studies and a financing models toolkit, presenting evidence on effective financing approaches, key success factors, design features and recommendations for improving access to finance for RA-PURE enterprises.

8. **Facilitate stakeholder validation**: The consultant will organise and facilitate a stakeholder validation process involving relevant actors to review the findings, verify

documented practices, obtain feedback and refine the case studies, toolkit and final report before submission to ACSA.

9. **Prepare and submit final consultancy outputs** The consultant will incorporate feedback from the validation process and submit final approved consultancy outputs, including the assessment report, case studies, financing models toolkit and other agreed deliverables, in accordance with the agreed timelines and quality standards.

7.0 Proposed Methodology and Approach

The consultant or consulting firm will propose and apply an appropriate methodology that ensures systematic collection, analysis and validation of information on financial initiatives and models supporting the scaling of RA-PURE enterprises. The methodology should combine desk-based review, stakeholder consultations, field assessments, analysis of financing models and participatory validation approaches.

The proposed approach should include the following key components:

1 Desk Review and Document Analysis: The consultant will undertake a review of relevant documents, including policies, programme reports, studies, financial sector documents, agricultural financing frameworks, renewable energy financing approaches and existing documentation on financial inclusion models. The desk review will provide an understanding of existing financing mechanisms, identify information gaps and guide the development of data collection tools and assessment criteria.

2 Stakeholder Mapping and Engagement: The consultant will develop a stakeholder mapping framework to identify and categorise relevant actors involved in financing agricultural enterprises and renewable energy investments. Stakeholder consultations will include financial institutions, SACCOs, VSLAs, government-supported financing programmes, farmers and farmer organisations, district and sub-county local government technical staff, private-sector PURE solution providers, PFP partners and other relevant actors.

3 Field Assessment and Data Collection: The consultant will conduct field assessments in the six PFP implementation districts of **Mpigi, Kayunga, Masaka, Kabarole, Kasese and Mubende**. Data collection will involve appropriate qualitative and quantitative approaches, including key informant interviews, stakeholder consultations, focus group discussions and review of available financial and programme records where applicable.

The assessment will examine financing models, types of financial products, accessibility, affordability, repayment structures, governance systems, risk management practices, investment outcomes, sustainability and suitability of financing arrangements for supporting RA-PURE enterprises.

4 Analysis and Documentation of Best Practices: The consultant will analyse collected information to identify financing initiatives and models demonstrating effective approaches for supporting agricultural enterprises and renewable energy investments. The analysis will consider success factors, institutional arrangements, operational practices, challenges, lessons learned and opportunities for adaptation and scaling.

The findings will be documented through structured case studies and a practical financing models toolkit that presents key features, lessons and recommendations for improving access to finance for RA-PURE enterprises.

5 Stakeholder Validation: The consultant will facilitate a stakeholder validation process to review and verify the assessment findings, case studies and toolkit. The validation process will provide an opportunity for stakeholders to provide feedback, confirm accuracy of documented practices and strengthen the relevance and applicability of the final outputs.

6 Quality Assurance and Finalisation of Outputs: The consultant will incorporate feedback from ACSA and stakeholders and ensure that all final outputs meet agreed quality standards. The final documents should be clear, evidence-based, practical and suitable for supporting learning on financing approaches for RA-PURE enterprise development.

8.0 Expected Deliverables and Outputs

The selected consultant or consulting firm will be expected to deliver the following outputs in accordance with the agreed consultancy schedule and quality requirements:

1. **Inception Report**: A detailed inception report outlining the consultant's understanding of the assignment, proposed methodology and approach, assessment framework, stakeholder engagement strategy, data collection tools, work plan, timelines and any identified risks or considerations for successful implementation of the consultancy.
2. **Stakeholder Mapping and Assessment Framework**: A stakeholder mapping document identifying key actors involved in agricultural financing and RA-PURE enterprise development, including financial institutions, government programmes, farmer organisations, private-sector actors, local government structures, PFP partners and other relevant stakeholders. The consultant will also develop an assessment framework for analysing financing initiatives and models.
3. **Field Assessment Report**: A comprehensive report presenting findings from field assessments conducted in the six PFP implementation districts of **Mpigi, Kayunga, Masaka, Kabarole, Kasese and Mubende**. The report should present analysis of financing mechanisms, financial products, governance arrangements, accessibility, affordability, sustainability, inclusion considerations, challenges and opportunities for scaling.

4. **Documented Case Studies of Successful Financing Models**: Structured case studies documenting selected financing initiatives and models that have effectively supported agricultural enterprises and investments in RA-PURE solutions. The case studies should capture the background of the financing model, institutional arrangements, financial products offered, implementation approaches, results achieved, challenges, lessons learned and factors contributing to success.
5. **RA-PURE Financing Models Toolkit**: A practical toolkit presenting successful financing approaches, governance arrangements, operational features, lessons learned and recommendations for improving access to finance for regenerative agriculture and productive use of renewable energy enterprises. The toolkit should be developed in a format that can support learning and future application by relevant stakeholders.
6. **Stakeholder Validation Report**: A report documenting the stakeholder validation process, including participants engaged, key feedback received, issues raised, recommendations provided and adjustments made to the assessment findings, case studies and toolkit.
7. **Final Consultancy Report and Knowledge Products**: A final consultancy report incorporating feedback from ACSA and stakeholders, together with final versions of all agreed knowledge products, including case studies and the financing models toolkit, submitted in editable and PDF formats.

9.0 Duration and Assignment Schedule

The consultancy is expected to be completed within 45 calendar days from the date of signing the consultancy agreement. The consultant or consulting firm will be required to develop a detailed work plan during the inception phase, indicating key activities, timelines, milestones and deliverables.

The indicative assignment schedule will include the following key phases:

Activity	Indicative Timeline
Contract signing, inception meeting and submission of inception report	Week 1
Desk review, stakeholder mapping and development of assessment tools	Week 1–2
Field assessments and stakeholder consultations in the six PFP implementation districts of Mpigi, Kayunga, Masaka, Kabarole, Kasese and Mubende	Week 2–4
Data analysis, identification of best practices and preparation of draft case studies and financing models toolkit	Week 4–5
Stakeholder validation of findings and knowledge products	Week 6
Incorporation of feedback and submission of final consultancy outputs	Week 6

The consultant will work closely with ACSA throughout the assignment period and provide regular updates on progress, emerging findings and any challenges that may affect the timely completion of the assignment. Any adjustments to the proposed schedule will be agreed upon between ACSA and the selected consultant or consulting firm.

10.0 Reporting and Supervision Arrangements

The consultant or consulting firm will report directly to the Advocacy Coalition for Sustainable Agriculture (ACSA), which will serve as the lead coordinating and supervising institution for the consultancy under the Power for Food Partnership (PFP) Programme. The consultant will work closely with the designated ACSA focal person throughout the assignment period and provide regular updates on progress, emerging findings, challenges and any issues that may affect timely delivery of the consultancy outputs.

ACSA will be responsible for overall supervision and coordination of the consultancy implementation process, including reviewing and providing guidance on the proposed methodology, facilitating access to relevant stakeholders, coordinating stakeholder introductions, supporting engagement with PFP partners and ensuring that the assignment remains aligned with the objectives and expectations of the programme.

ACSA will review, provide feedback on and approve all consultancy deliverables, including the inception report, assessment reports, case studies, financing models toolkit, validation outputs and final consultancy report. The consultant will incorporate comments and recommendations provided by ACSA and other relevant stakeholders during the review and validation processes before final submission of the approved outputs.

SNV, as the organisation convening the Power for Food Partnership Programme, may participate in the technical review of key consultancy outputs and provide technical guidance in accordance with the programme’s coordination, quality assurance and approval arrangements. The consultant will ensure that all outputs are developed in a manner consistent with the objectives of the PFP Programme and the requirements agreed with ACSA and relevant programme stakeholders.

11.0 Required Qualifications and Experience of the Consultant/Consulting Firm

ACSA invites applications from suitably qualified individual consultants or consulting firms with demonstrated experience in agricultural finance, rural financial systems, financial inclusion, enterprise development, renewable energy financing, research, documentation and development of practical knowledge products. The consultant or consulting firm should demonstrate the capacity to undertake a multi-stakeholder assessment involving financial institutions, government programmes, farmer organisations, private-sector actors and other stakeholders across the six PFP implementation districts.

The consultant or consulting firm should meet the following minimum requirements:

1 Lead Consultant

The lead consultant should possess:

- A postgraduate qualification in agricultural economics, economics, finance, business administration, development studies, rural development, cooperative management, renewable energy, monitoring and evaluation, or any other closely related discipline.
- Demonstrated professional experience in agricultural finance, financial inclusion, rural financing systems, enterprise development or related fields, with practical understanding of financing challenges affecting smallholder farmers and agricultural enterprises.
- Proven experience in assessing, designing, analysing or documenting agricultural financing models, including SACCOs, VSLAs, microfinance institutions, commercial bank agricultural products, government financing programmes and other rural financial mechanisms.
- Demonstrated experience in analysing agricultural loan products, including agricultural production loans, agribusiness financing, equipment and asset financing, value addition financing, post-harvest financing, market access financing and renewable energy financing solutions.
- Experience working with financial institutions, cooperative organisations, farmer organisations, government financing initiatives, development programmes and private-sector actors involved in agricultural and enterprise financing.
- Experience conducting field-based research and stakeholder consultations involving farmers, financial service providers, government technical staff, private-sector actors and development partners.
- Demonstrated experience in developing research reports, case studies, toolkits, assessment reports and other practical knowledge products.

2 Proposed Consultancy Team Composition

Where the assignment is undertaken by a consulting firm, the firm should propose a multidisciplinary team with complementary expertise relevant to the consultancy. The proposed team should include, where applicable, the following areas of expertise:

- **Agricultural Finance and Financial Inclusion Specialist:** A team member with experience in agricultural finance systems, rural financial services, financial product development, value chain financing and assessment of financing mechanisms supporting farmers and agricultural enterprises.
- **Cooperative and Microfinance Specialist:** A team member with experience working with SACCOs, VSLAs, farmer savings groups, cooperative structures and community-

based financial mechanisms, including governance systems, loan management, savings mobilisation and sustainability assessment.

- **Renewable Energy Financing Specialist:** A team member with knowledge and experience in financing productive use of renewable energy technologies, including solar irrigation, solar drying, biogas systems, renewable energy equipment and other agricultural energy solutions.
- **Agricultural Economist or Enterprise Development Specialist:** A team member with experience analysing agricultural value chains, production systems, agribusiness models, investment needs and financial requirements of smallholder farmers and rural enterprises.
- **Research and Data Analysis Specialist:** A team member with demonstrated experience in designing research methodologies, developing data collection tools, conducting qualitative and quantitative assessments, analysing findings and preparing evidence-based reports.
- **Gender and Social Inclusion Specialist:** A team member with experience integrating gender, youth inclusion, accessibility and participation of vulnerable groups into agricultural, financial inclusion and enterprise development assessments.
- **Knowledge Management and Documentation Specialist:** A team member with experience developing case studies, toolkits, learning materials and other communication products that translate research findings into practical resources for wider application.

3 Experience of the Consulting Firm (where applicable)

For consulting firms, the firm should demonstrate:

- Experience in undertaking similar assignments related to agricultural finance, financial inclusion, rural development, enterprise financing, renewable energy financing, research, documentation or learning processes.
- Evidence of successfully completed consultancy assignments of similar nature, including assignment descriptions, client references and examples of relevant reports or knowledge products developed.
- Experience working with civil society organisations, development partners, government institutions, financial institutions, farmer organisations and multi-stakeholder programmes in Uganda or similar contexts.
- Capacity to mobilise qualified experts and conduct field assessments across multiple districts while ensuring effective stakeholder engagement and timely delivery of consultancy outputs.

Consultants or consulting firms with demonstrated experience supporting smallholder farmers, agricultural value chains, climate-smart agriculture initiatives, renewable energy adoption and inclusive financing approaches in Uganda will be given preference.

12.0 Proposal Submission Requirements and Evaluation Criteria

Interested consultants or consulting firms shall submit a complete proposal demonstrating their understanding of the assignment, technical capacity, relevant experience and financial ability to successfully undertake the consultancy. The proposal shall be evaluated based on the quality of the technical submission, relevant experience of the consultant or consulting firm, qualifications of the proposed team and the competitiveness of the financial proposal.

1 Proposal Submission Requirements

The proposal submitted by the consultant or consulting firm should include the following components:

a. Technical Proposal

The technical proposal should demonstrate the applicant's understanding of the consultancy assignment, the objectives, expected outputs and requirements for profiling, documenting and validating financing models supporting RA-PURE enterprises. The proposal should include:

- A clear interpretation of the assignment and explanation of the consultant's understanding of the objectives, scope and expected results of the consultancy.
- A detailed methodology and approach describing how the consultant will undertake the assignment, including the proposed approach for desk review, stakeholder engagement, field assessments, data collection, analysis of financing models, documentation of best practices and stakeholder validation.
- A stakeholder engagement approach explaining how the consultant will identify, consult and obtain information from financial institutions, farmers, government programmes, local government technical staff, private-sector actors, PFP partners and other relevant stakeholders across the six implementation districts.
- A detailed work plan showing key activities, timelines, milestones and deliverables within the proposed consultancy period.
- A description of the proposed team composition, including the roles and responsibilities of each team member, relevant qualifications and specific technical expertise that each member will contribute to the assignment.

b. Financial Proposal

The financial proposal should provide a detailed and realistic budget for undertaking the consultancy. The financial proposal should include:

- Professional fees for the lead consultant and any proposed team members, clearly indicating the level of effort, number of working days and applicable rates.
- Field assessment costs, including travel, accommodation, stakeholder engagement activities, data collection-related expenses and any other fieldwork requirements necessary to undertake assessments in the six PFP implementation districts.
- Costs related to stakeholder validation meetings, preparation of consultancy outputs and other assignment-related activities where applicable.
- Applicable taxes, statutory deductions and any other relevant charges associated with delivery of the consultancy services.

The financial proposal should clearly present all costs required to complete the assignment and should be submitted separately from the technical proposal where applicable.

2 Proposal Evaluation Criteria

Proposals will be evaluated using a combined technical and financial assessment approach. The technical proposal will first be assessed against the stated criteria, and financial proposals will be considered as part of the overall evaluation process.

The evaluation criteria will include:

Evaluation Criterion	**Weight (%)**
Understanding of the assignment	25%
Proposed methodology and approach	25%
Relevant professional experience of the consultant/consulting firm	20%
Qualifications and experience of the proposed team	10%
Work plan and implementation schedule	10%
Financial proposal	10%
Total	**100%**

ACSA will assess proposals based on demonstrated technical competence, relevance of previous experience, suitability of the proposed methodology, capacity of the proposed team and value for money. Only proposals that meet the minimum technical requirements and demonstrate the capacity to successfully undertake the assignment will be considered for further review.

13.0 Payment Schedule

Payment for the consultancy services will be made based on the successful completion, submission and approval of agreed consultancy deliverables by ACSA. The payment schedule will be structured as follows:

Payment Milestone	**Percentage of Payment**
Upon signing of the consultancy agreement and approval of the inception report, including the agreed methodology, work plan, stakeholder engagement approach and data collection tools	40%
Upon submission and review of draft consultancy outputs, including the field assessment report, draft case studies and draft RA-PURE financing models toolkit	40%
Upon completion of the stakeholder validation process, incorporation of feedback and approval of the final consultancy report, case studies, toolkit and other agreed deliverables by ACSA	20%

All payments will be subject to submission of satisfactory deliverables and compliance with applicable contractual and statutory requirements. The final payment will only be processed after ACSA confirms acceptance and approval of all final consultancy outputs.

14.0 Administrative Requirements and Submission Details

Interested consultants or consulting firms shall submit their complete proposals in accordance with the requirements provided in these Terms of Reference. Applications should contain both technical and financial proposals together with all supporting documents required for assessment of the applicant's suitability to undertake the assignment.

The submission package should include the following attachments:

- Technical proposal outlining the consultant's understanding of the assignment, proposed methodology and approach, stakeholder engagement strategy, work plan, implementation schedule and proposed team composition.
- Financial proposal providing a detailed cost breakdown, including professional fees, field assessment costs, applicable taxes, statutory charges and any other costs required to complete the assignment.
- Updated curriculum vitae (CVs) of the lead consultant and proposed team members, including evidence of academic qualifications, professional experience and relevant technical competencies.

- Evidence of previous similar assignments, including descriptions of completed consultancies, client references and examples of relevant reports, case studies, toolkits or other knowledge products developed.
- Legal and registration documents for consulting firms, including certificate of registration or incorporation, valid company registration documents, valid trading licence or operating permits where applicable, Tax Identification Number (TIN), evidence of tax registration, valid tax clearance certificate and other statutory compliance documents required under applicable laws and regulations.

Proposals should be submitted electronically in Microsoft Word or PDF format to **info@acsa-ug.org** not later than **10th September 2026**.

The email subject line should clearly indicate the title of the consultancy:

"Consultancy to Profile, Document and Validate Best Practices from Financial Initiatives and Models Supporting the Scaling of Regenerative Agriculture and Productive Use of Renewable Energy (RA-PURE) Enterprises under the Power for Food Partnership (PFP) Programme."

Only complete applications received within the stated submission period will be considered.

15.0 ACSA Rights and Disclaimer

ACSA reserves the right to accept or reject any application, request additional clarification or information from applicants during the evaluation process, and make any necessary adjustments to the procurement process in accordance with its applicable procedures.

Only shortlisted consultants or consulting firms will be contacted for further engagement.