

## **Call for proposal for**

**Strengthening AARINENA Capacity as Multi-Stakeholder Regional  
Forum on Research and Innovation for Development**

## **I. Background**

The Association of Agricultural Research Institutions in the Near East and North Africa (AARINENA) was established in 1985 as an autonomous body. The association represents national agricultural research institutions; Agricultural universities and colleges; Regional and international agricultural research institutions and organizations operating in the Region; Agricultural research oriented private sector institutions; Non-governmental organizations and natural resources management institutions. The Association has been established to: i/ Foster the development of agricultural research in the Near East and North Africa Region; ii/ Promote the exchange of agricultural, scientific and technical experience and information; iii/ Encourage the establishment of appropriate cooperative research and training programs in accordance with identified regional, bilateral or national needs and priorities; iv/ Advise member institutions on issues pertinent to research organization and management; v/ Strengthen cross-linkages between national, regional and international research centres and organizations, including universities; vi/ Strengthen national agricultural research capacities for providing information to the policy makers; and vii/ assist in the mobilization of financial and other forms of support to all efforts aiming at strengthening agricultural research and technology development in the Region.

Since its adoption in 1983, AARINENA's constitution has been amended four times to accommodate the global challenges and changes in agricultural development. Still, AARINENA's partners believe there is a need for a structured diagnosis and reform of AARINENA including reviewing its constitution, organizational structure, its current functions and resources. This should enable the Forum to fulfill the needs and aspirations of the stakeholders in an era where Innovation in Research and higher education is definitely the way to transform Agriculture, contribute to the wellbeing of agricultural communities and support the realization of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In order to realize these reform goals, AARINENA with support from the Global Forum of Agriculture Research (GFAR) is launching a collective action aiming at Strengthening AARINENA's Capacity as Multi-Stakeholder Regional Forum on Research and Innovation for Development.. This collective action will result in the development and finalization of AARINENA's new strategy and action plan toward 2035

## **II. Requested Services**

1. AARINENA hereby invites Consulting firms or experts to express their interest and to send their proposal to conduct the following activities related to **Strengthening AARINENA Capacity as Multi-Stakeholder Regional Fora on Research and Innovation for Development** initiative that take place between November 1, 2017 and August 31, 2018:

- Support the design and Facilitation of a workshop on foresight and stakeholders needs assessment, and advise on the development and formulation of the situational diagnosis and needs assessment

report documenting results of the exercises with a view to formulate AARINENA's new direction and the human, technical and financial resources needed for the change

- Advise on the development and finalization of a strategy document addressing the issues and priorities identified in the situational diagnosis and foresight workshop, and suggesting ways to reach the identified goals including resource mobilization and ensuring the enabling environment
- Advise on a plan of implementation of the strategy (action plan/results framework) with focus on management of change and human and financial resources
- Advise on the structural and content changes needed to implement the reform of AARINENA, and support the development of schemes of the changes needed, including the new organizational structure, job analysis, description, and recruitment and staffing strategies.
- Provide technical support for the development of a communication strategy to disseminate the change to AARINENA Partners.
- Provide technical support for the development of a M & E system
- Support the development of interim reporting required by GFAR

2. The firm/experts should demonstrate experience in the type of assignment needed, familiarity with the geographical region and working knowledge of the regional language, and should show the capacity and ability of assigned consultants in implementing the required actions to fulfill the assignment objectives.

3. The proposal should include the firm information, the expert(s) profile (competences and expertise with respect to the activities detailed above under point 1, should be highlighted and documented) and the implementation methodology, and the consultation cost including number of days and the cost needed for each of the activities.

4. The proposal can be submitted in English or Arabic.

5. The proposal will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

**A) The firm/consultant's experience in providing the service needed.**

**Experience in consultancy work in the NENA region is an asset**

**B) The appropriateness of the suggested methodology**

**C) The competitiveness of the financial offer.**

**D) The level of commitment and availability during the period November 1 to August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2018.**

6. Proposals should be sent by e-mail to the following email address.  
Deadline for receiving proposals is November 20, 2017 at 12.00 noon (GMT).

AARINENA Secretariat at: [a.aarinena@gmail.com](mailto:a.aarinena@gmail.com) and Copy to [m.ajlouni@cgjar.org](mailto:m.ajlouni@cgjar.org)