**Background**

The Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources Policy Analysis Network (FANRPAN) is a regional multi-stakeholder policy research and advocacy network. The network engages with targeted constituencies at local and national levels through its current 17 member countries\(^1\) in Africa. In each member country, the FANRPAN network operates through an inter-sectoral platform called a “node” comprising a diverse group of organizations including research institutes, farmer groups, government, media, parliamentarians, private sector and other civil society organizations that have a stake in Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources (FANR) policies.

FANRPAN’s strategy is centred on three mutually supportive thrusts: Policy Research; Capacity Building; and Policy Advocacy. FANRPAN’s vision is a food secure Africa without poverty and hunger. FANRPAN’s mission is to promote effective FANR policies by: (i) facilitating linkages and partnerships between government and civil society, (ii) building the capacity for policy analysis and policy dialogue in Africa, and (iii) supporting demand-driven policy research and analysis. FANRPAN works in partnership with other organisations to deliver its mission (www.fanrpan.org).

One of the projects implemented by FANRPAN under the Food and Nutrition Systems thematic thrust is the Platform for African and European Partnerships in Agricultural Research for Development (PAEPARD\(^2\)). PAEPARD is an eight year project funded by the European Commission (80%) and partner own contributions (20%). The project is coordinated by FARA and aims at building joint African-European multi-stakeholder partnerships in agricultural research for development (ARD) contributing to achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

The project is in its sixth year and is currently focusing on publication of research findings and advocacy materials. In light of this, FANRPAN would like to engage a consultant to develop a policy brief and an opinion editorial (OPED) on post-harvest loss management and aflatoxin contamination in the groundnut value chain. This activity falls under the Work Package Partnerships user-led process, publications budget line item.

**The Scope of the Assignment**

FANRPAN policy briefs are informed by the research findings and recommendations from national and regional policy dialogues. The briefs are an important advocacy tool in influencing a positive policy change for a conducive policy environment. The purpose of the policy brief is to sensitize policy decision-makers and other actors on the rationale and urgency of critical regional agricultural and rural development issues. They make clear, the need to adopt an informed course of action.

The policy brief and OPED should be clear on the aim and the problem being addressed (i.e., post-harvest loss management and aflatoxin contamination in the groundnut value chain). The documents should bring out a nuanced context, findings discussion, conclusions and key policy recommendations. The policy brief and OPED will be printed and distributed by the FANRPAN Secretariat through various media channels. They will be posted on the FANRPAN Website, PAEPARD website and other relevant partner websites.

**Scope of Work**

The consultant will be expected to execute the following tasks:

- Develop a policy brief and an Opinion/Editorial Article based on secondary research data and related ongoing initiatives.
- Review the proceedings of the FANRPAN Regional Dialogue in Zambia extract the relevant resolutions on PHLM and aflatoxin issues.

**Expected Outputs**

- 1 Policy Brief (maximum 6 pages) and

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\(^1\) [http://www.fanrpan.org/about/origins/](http://www.fanrpan.org/about/origins/)

• 1 Opinion/Editorial Articles (maximum 600 words)

Timeframe
• Draft documents to be submitted on the 30th of September
• Presentation of the findings at a National Dialogue in Lilongwe, Malawi scheduled during the week of 5-9 October 2015.
• Final submission of the documents by 20 October incorporating comments from the national dialogue

Qualifications and Experience
Post graduate qualification in Agriculture and or Food Science and 6 years-experience in the agricultural sector as well as a good command of the English language. A PhD qualification would be an added advantage. Reference work on post-harvest loss management and aflatoxin issues.

Expressions of Interest (EOIs) to be submitted to policy@fanrpan.org by 18 September 2015. The submission should include the following:
• Consultant’s understanding of the task and methodology
• Cost for undertaking the work (detailing man-days required and daily rate).
• At least 3 references for similar work with confirmation of rates