

Terms of Reference for National Coordinator Madagascar with Global Programme for Small-scale Agroecology Producers and Sustainable Food Systems Transformation (GP-SAEP)

1. Background

About GFRAS

The Global Forum for Rural Advisory Services (www.g-fras.org) is an international association enhancing the performance of advisory services so that they can better serve farm families and rural producers, thus contributing to improved livelihoods in rural areas and the sustainable reduction of hunger and poverty. Its mission is to provide capacity building, advocacy and leadership on pluralistic and demand-driven rural advisory services (RAS) for sustainable development. GFRAS plays a catalytic role, promoting and stimulating interactions between RAS policy stakeholders at global, regional, and national levels. It also supports the development, exchange, and diffusion of tried and tested RAS approaches, tools, and policies and stimulates institutional and individual capacity development.

Since its inception in 2010, GFRAS has provided its members with regular learning and exchange platforms, divided across its four strategic fields (SF). SF1 focuses on advocacy and support for an enabling policy environment and appropriate investment in RAS. SF2 is focused on professionalization of RAS, SF3 on the facilitation and enhancement of effective and continuous knowledge generation and exchange and, finally, SF4 focuses on strengthening capacities of GFRAS Networks. The GFRAS structure reaches smallholder farmers via the regional rural advisory services networks, which are made up of national-level platforms. In doing so, it pursues outcomes (changes in behaviour) related to the enabling environment, institutions and organisations (focusing on regional networks as the core of the forum), and human resource development (individual capacities).

About African Forum for Agricultural Advisory Services (AFAAS)

The African Forum for Agricultural Advisory Services ([AFAAS](#)) is part of the GFRAS regional networks and the continental umbrella organization that aims at strengthening national Agricultural Extension and Advisory Services (AEAS) in Africa. Its mission is to promote lesson learning and add value to initiatives in AEAS through policy advocacy and lobbying, sharing of knowledge and information through increased professional interaction among AEAS providers. AFAAS supports the establishment of Country Fora (CF) in all member states, through which its activities are implemented.

About Madagascar Country Forum

The Country Forum (CF) in Madagascar called “[Forum du Conseil Agricole](#)”, which was launched and had its constitution signed on 8th July 2014. It has a General Assembly, Steering Committee/Board: Conseil d’Orientation, and a Secretariat: Bureau de facilitation at FTA. The “Bureau de facilitation” is hosted by the Farming & Technology for Africa, represented by Administration and activity coordination. The forum does many activities in the areas of: ICT4Dev, small scale farming improvement, CSA, agroecology and natural resource management. The activities of the forum include organizing strategic workshops on knowledge management; organize ICT4Ag training; training on the new extensionist and organize policy dialogue and develop extension strategy.

About the GP-SAEP project

GFRAS is implementing an Agroecology project in close collaboration with International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD). The project called 'Global Programme for Small-scale Agroecology Producers and Sustainable Food Systems Transformation (GP-SAEP)' is part of a larger funding envelope provided by the European Commission (EC) and will be implemented between 2023 and June 2026. (See project summary [YouTube video](#) for more details).

The goal of the project is the transformation of food systems towards agroecology by enabling small-scale producers to strengthen their practices of agroecology, through better access to knowledge, support services, improved technologies and market outlets. This should improve their resilience to climatic, environmental and socio-economic shocks and stressors as well as food and nutrition security and incomes.

The programme is structured around four components; GFRAS in partnership with Access Agriculture and the youth network (YPARD) is responsible for Component 3, focusing on *"Increasing Access to knowledge and Empowering 10 000 Small-Scale Farmers in Agroecological Transition through Participatory Rural Advisory Services (RAS) and Farmer to Farmer joint learning"*.

Implementation of this third component by GFRAS and its partners will happen in four countries: Madagascar and Uganda in Africa, and Costa Rica and Ecuador in Latin America. The GFRAS regional networks, [AFAAS](#) and [RELASER](#) and the Country Fora in the respective countries will be essential in the implementation of this project.

As part of the GP-SAEP project implementation, GFRAS is recruiting a [National Coordinator](#) in Madagascar.

2. Duties and Responsibilities

The [National Coordinator: Madagascar](#) will be part of the Country Forum and will be closely liaising with the GP-SAEP project implementation team at AFAAS and GFRAS Global Secretariat. The National Coordinator: Madagascar will support the Country Fora in coordination of the project in Madagascar and in liaising with IFAD, FAO and other relevant partners.

The specific responsibilities of the [National Coordinator: Madagascar](#) are listed, but not limited to, the ones that follow:

2.1 Coordination of Capacity building for Master Trainers and RAS facilitators

- 2.1.1 Coordinate project implementation activities with IFAD and other relevant stakeholders in Madagascar and liaise with GFRAS Global Secretariat in doing so;
- 2.1.2 Be available to hold regular virtual meetings with AFAAS and the Global Professionalisation Coordinator for technical backstopping support;
- 2.1.3 Support the identification and selection of 5 Master Trainers who will be responsible for the training;
- 2.1.4 Help to ensure that the 5 Master Trainers are available to attend initial training that will be provided by the Global Project Management Unit and AFAAS;
- 2.1.5 Support with the identification of RAS producer organisations from which the RAS facilitators can be selected;
- 2.1.6 Support with identification and selection of 60 RAS facilitators to be equipped with agroecology related skills to manage co-creation of knowledge with farmers;
- 2.1.7 Be available to attend the Training of Master Trainers that will be organized at regional level;

- 2.1.8 Provide backstopping support to Master Trainers and RAS facilitators and conduct site visits to the countries where necessary;
- 2.1.9 Support YPARD in providing an oversight on the training of 60 RAS Facilitators and 2500 farmers in the in Madagascar over the duration of the project;
- 2.1.10 Support with the selection of Agroecology champions (among RAS facilitators, Master Trainers and Farmers) who will be supported to attend either National or Regional workshops to share their experience

2.2 Organise and attend knowledge sharing events

- 2.2.1 Support Country Fora in organizing and be available to attend project preparation mission (by the GFRAS Project Management Unit (PMU) and AFAAS in Madagascar (4-8 September 2023) project and get ideas on how to implement in Madagascar;
- 2.2.2 Contribute to the Organisation of Project launch workshop in Latin America in collaboration with RELASER and Project Management Unit (PMU);
- 2.2.3 Work with the Country Fora to establish an Agroecology Community of Practice;
- 2.2.4 Support interface and cross learning with the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) ongoing agroecology projects and Farmer Field Schools (FFS) in Madagascar.

2.3 Coordinate implementing partner support

- 2.3.1 Support coordination with Access Agriculture and YPARD at national level;
- 2.3.2 Support the institutional anchoring of agroecology practices in RAS providers organisations;

2.4 Support the generation and dissemination of best practices for agroecology in RAS

- 2.4.1 Support YPARD Agroecology Fellow with administering the Knowledge Attitude and Practice (KAP) assessment of RAS Facilitators at the beginning and end of project;
- 2.4.2 Support the Country Forum in:
 - a) Design and facilitation of two national workshops for knowledge and experience sharing;
 - b) Design and facilitation of 1 national dissemination workshop;
- 2.4.3 Contribute to knowledge product development, communication and visibility

3. National Coordinator's Profile

- Dual language proficiency in French and English is a must;
- Experience in project coordination and management;
- Membership of the Forum du Conseil Agricole, Madagascar (will be an added advantage);
- Knowledge of GFRAS and AFAAS and commitment to their mission (will be an added advantage);
- Knowledge of agroecology concepts and practices; sustainable agricultural development (will be an added advantage);
- Experience in facilitation of systems-based approaches, agricultural innovation platforms, experiential learning and action learning approaches as well as participatory extension approaches and other learning methodologies and co-generation of knowledge with farmers;
- Experience in smallholder farmer development;
- Skilled in design and facilitation of multi-stakeholder engagements;
- Ability to work independently.

4. Minimum qualifications

- Four-year qualification in Agricultural Extension, Agricultural Sciences, Social Sciences or related fields (Masters will be an added advantage);
- Minimum 5 years' experience in coordination of projects at regional level;
- Minimum 5 years in training and development in the context of Agricultural Extension and Rural Advisory Services.

5. Work Load, Duration of Work and Remuneration

The National Coordinator is expected to work, on average, 16 hours per week in managing their tasks, which amounts to a 40% full-time position per month. The workload is calculated on an annual basis and should also be taken into account that some months demand slightly more engagement than others, but this will be discussed in advance between the National Coordinator and GFRAS.

The contract should last throughout the GP-SAEP project duration (till June 2026).

For this work, the National Coordinator will receive an annual compensation of up to EUR 28.800 per year, depending on experience and hours worked, paid in monthly instalments.

For content and technical support the National Coordinator reports directly to the Global Professionalisation Coordinator who is based in the GFRAS Global Secretariat and will work closely with AFAAS and the Madagascar country forum.

For any administration related matters, the National Coordinator reports directly to the Global Professionalisation Coordinator.

6. Proposals

Interested persons should kindly email their CV (of no more than 2 pages) as well as a one-page letter outlining your current topics of interest in agriculture, Rural Advisory Services and food systems, and how do you propose this to be discussed in the GFRAS Secretariat to ingrid.oliveira@g-fras.org by 4 August 2023.