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Call for offers

Donau Soja is seeking an

Expert for carbon footprint assessment of animal feed and food products

The Donau Soja Organisation (hereafter: the commissioner) hereby invites organisations/individuals (hereafter: the service provider) to send in their proposal for the provision of the services described in this Call for offers. The service provider selected will fulfil an expert role in assessing the carbon footprint of feed and food products. This service will be conducted under the framework of the Strategic Partnership between Donau Soja and the Austrian Development Agency (ADA).

Background

Donau Soja

Donau Soja is an independent, international, non-profit, multi-stakeholder organisation aiming to effectively meet protein market demand and to provide a baseline for the development of high quality soya cultivation in the Danube region (www.donausoja.org). The organisation is seated in Vienna, Austria.

Strategic Partnership Programme

At the beginning of 2017, Donau Soja and Austrian Development Agency (ADA) started the Strategic Partnership Programme in Moldova, Ukraine, Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina planned to be implemented until August 2023. The overall objective of the programme is to build sustainable, inclusive and well-functioning value chains (local, regional and international) for non-GM soya and organic soya in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Moldova, Serbia and Ukraine.

The programme proposes measures in nine areas (components: Production and processing, Value chain development, Awareness raising and sensitization, Certification and labelling, Business environment and policy framework, International market development, Knowledge and technology management and transfer, Project development and technical assistance, General administration and programme management) planned to be implemented by Donau Soja through numerous measures and activities. All programme activities are to be implemented according to General Contract Conditions (Allgemeine Vertragsbedingungen), guidelines and requirements described in Guidelines for Visibility, considering DS and standards in international development, with special emphasis of DCED Standard (<http://www.enterprise-development.org/dced-guidance/>).

The work of the expert

Calculation of climate benefits from the use of Donau Soja / Europe Soya for exemplary feed and food products

The contractor shall calculate the carbon footprint and climate benefits due to the use of Donau Soja / Europe Soya-certified soya for several products in two modules:

- Module 1: Carbon footprint of up to three processed soya products (e.g. soya meal, soya flour, soya protein concentrate)
- Module 2: Carbon footprint of up to three food products (e.g. farmed fish, poultry, soya-based burger patty)

Note: the number and composition of products per module may vary slightly from proposed examples, exact product scope and respective system boundaries to be specified. The service provider is requested to provide a modular offer for up to three products per category, considering cost reductions per additional unit.

The assessment shall be in line with international standards and norms (ISO 14040/44) (Module 1+2) and with requirements for branded datasets of international databases (e.g. Agri-footprint, GFLI) (Module 1). This includes requirements to pass critical review by an independent third party, in case such review will be requested by Donau Soja.

Climate benefits should be calculated by creating a benchmark based on average market mix for soya components, assuming otherwise identical production conditions and rearing and keeping conditions for e.g. farmed salmon, poultry. The relative improvement - e.g. compared to conventional soya or compared to South or North American soya (often loaded with emissions due to LULUC) shall be quantified and presented.

The service provider will be contracted to deliver the following intermediary and end products:

1. Assessment of the carbon footprint and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions of relevant processed soya/feed or food products;
2. An intermediary presentation for each product to discuss the main findings with the commissioner after calculation / analysis;
3. A final report for each processed soya/feed or food product explaining the assumptions, methodology and results (additional technical documentation stating all resources used to develop the calculations);

Donau Soja supports the service provider by providing LCI data on Donau Soja /Europe Soya-certified soya beans from various sourcing regions and by establishing contacts with partners in the supply chain and facilitating cooperation with the respective producers, manufacturers and experts. Donau Soja does not provide access to LCA databases and cannot cover cost for such access.

Requirements

The service provider shall meet the following requirements:

- Excellent record on carbon footprint calculations related to animal feed and food products;
- Access to LCA databases for quantifying carbon emissions;
- Solid research and analytical skills;
- Ability to write clearly and concisely in English;

In addition, the service provider is required to support high standards of social and environmental performance in the project and demonstrate gender and diversity competences.

The assignment is part-time/ short term, and the services will be provided based on a work plan mutually agreed between the service provider and Donau Soja Organisation.

The service provider is expected to use his/her own office and technical equipment.

Reporting

The service provider will report directly to the *Project Manager Sustainability*.

Close cooperation with Donau Soja team is required in regards to European soya supply chains.

The service provider is expected to submit written reports on work conducted twice per animal feed and food product (intermediary presentation and final report).

The service provider is expected to keep records of time, cost and activities spent on the project. Additionally, outputs (such as Intermediary presentation, final report etc.) can be considered as proof of expert work.

Remuneration

The service provider will work under a framework agreement.

Remuneration installments will be based on offer and agreement between Donau Soja and the service provider. The detailed remuneration plan will be defined in the framework agreement.

Payments will be done based on issued invoices.

The fees will be paid based on services provided - against accepted time recording and other agreed terms.

Travel costs and other cost can be paid directly by the contractor or by the service provider - against proof of evidence- (incl. written confirmation of contractor, invoices for transportation, tickets/boarding passes, hotel invoices, entrance tickets etc.)

Selection criteria

The evaluation will be done based on following criteria:

1. Price
2. Strategic approach proposal (understanding of task, plausibility, level of detail)
3. Detailed plan for each work package of the assignment (incl. methodology, timeframe, budget,...)
4. Professional experience with carbon footprint calculations in processed soya products, animal feed and food products;
5. Reputation of service provider/references
6. Fulfilment of the formal requirements defined in the ToR
7. English language skills

Documents to be provided

Tenders are to be sent by email to dreyer@donausoja.org by 25.04.2021, indicating "Expert for carbon footprint assessment of animal feed and food products" in the subject, with the following documents (in English or German):

1. Short interpretation of the assignment
2. Description of strategic approach including planned activities for each part of the assignment, methodology of each part of the assignment, results and time frame
3. Project management plan, including milestones and feedback moments
4. A curriculum vitae for each of the staff expected to be engaged in the work.
5. References (at least three relevant examples of projects executed that show experience with this type of assignments)
6. Financial offer including detailed budget overview (days per activity, costs per day)