

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Service Requirement:	Capacity buildings for smallholder farmers, local organizations, and other stakeholders for sustainable agriculture practices
Project Title:	Proposal for " Climate-Smart Agriculture Training" in Bogale, Kalaw, Nyaung-U, Pyapon, and Taunggyi, Townships
Starting Date:	01 December 2024
Completion Date:	28 February 2025
Project Location:	Yangon, Myanmar

1. Background

Myanmar has been identified as one of the country's most severely impacted by extreme weather events over the past decade, according to the Global Climate Risk Index (2021). The country has faced repeated occurrences of cyclones, floods, and droughts across various states and regions, leaving many areas highly vulnerable to the effects of climate change. Limited capacities to cope with these challenges have further exacerbated the risk posed by climate-related hazards. As a result, urgent climate action is required to both adapt to and mitigate the impacts of climate change in Myanmar.

The agricultural sector in Myanmar faces increasing threats due to climate change, including unpredictable weather patterns, extreme weather events, and changing growing seasons. These challenges place significant pressure on smallholder farmers who depend on agriculture as their primary livelihood. To address these threats, Climate-Smart Agriculture (CSA) offers a holistic solution aimed at improving agricultural productivity, enhancing resilience to climate change, and reducing greenhouse gas emissions. CSA integrates a range of practices that support sustainable resource use, increased food security, and improved livelihoods. Climate change presents significant challenges to agricultural systems, especially in developing regions where agriculture is a primary livelihood. In Myanmar, smallholder farmers are particularly vulnerable to erratic weather patterns, droughts, floods, and shifting growing seasons, which threaten crop yields, food security, and rural livelihoods. These impacts underscore the need for sustainable agricultural solutions.

To address these issues, Climate-Smart Agriculture (CSA) offers a comprehensive solution aimed at improving productivity, enhancing resilience to climate change, and reducing greenhouse gas emissions. CSA integrates sustainable practices that help farmers adapt to the changing climate while promoting long-term sustainability, resource efficiency, and improved livelihoods.

Under the MCCA2 program, funded by the European Union, UN-Habitat is implementing the Local Climate Action Plan (LCAP) to address climate-related challenges. The LCAP focuses

on prioritizing and implementing urgent, gender-responsive actions that align with local capacities to build resilience and adapt to the impacts of climate change. The LCAP outlines roles for target beneficiaries, responsible implementers, and details timelines and resources needed. In line with Scenario C, which emphasizes adaptation, mitigation, and sustainable development, CSA practices have been identified as essential strategies to mitigate the impacts of climate change on livelihoods and agriculture.

To maximize the potential of CSA, it is crucial to integrate value chain development. By doing so, farmers not only adopt sustainable agricultural practices but also gain better access to markets, increase their income, and strengthen the agricultural system as a whole. Moreover, organic certification offers farmers the opportunity to access premium markets where demand for environmentally-friendly and chemical-free products is growing. Pursuing organic certification allows farmers to increase the value of their products while reinforcing sustainable agricultural practices.

This Terms of Reference (TOR) outlines the objectives, scope, and deliverables for a comprehensive training program focused on Climate-Smart Agriculture, value chain development, and the organic certification process. The training will empower farmers and community stakeholders to implement CSA practices, strengthen their engagement with agricultural value chains, and pursue organic certification to enhance their market potential and sustainability.

2. Objective

The primary purpose of this training is to enhance the capacity of smallholder farmers, local organizations, and other stakeholders to implement climate-smart agricultural (CSA) practices while strengthening their integration into agricultural value chains. The training will focus on increasing agricultural productivity, building resilience to climate change, and facilitating market access to ensure long-term sustainability.

The key objectives are:

- To introduce participants to the principles and practices of climate-smart agriculture (CSA), promoting productivity, resilience, and reduced environmental impact.
- To integrate value chain development into CSA training, ensuring that farmers can effectively engage in market-oriented farming and improve their economic opportunities.
- To improve understanding of the economic benefits of climate-smart practices through value addition, product diversification, and strong market linkages.
- To guide participants through the organic certification process, providing them access to premium markets while maintaining sustainable agricultural practices.
- To support farmers and local stakeholders in transitioning to climate-resilient, sustainable, and market-oriented farming systems that enhance both climate resilience and livelihoods.

3. Potential target locations

UN-Habitat identified five target townships, Pyapon, Bogale, Nyaung-U, Taunggyi, and Kalaw and partner organization has to assess the potential villages with the coordination with UN Habitat township coordinator.

4. Site selection and beneficiaries

The Climate-Smart Agriculture (CSA) Training through Value Chain Integration and Organic Certification process is being implemented in five targeted townships: Pyapon, Bogale, Nyaung U, Taunggyi, and Kalaw. The training targets 120 representatives of smallholder farmers, local farmers' organizations, and other agri-food stakeholders (eg from local markets), including women and youth in three (3) geo-climatic regions in Myanmar: Delta, Dry Zone and Hilly region.

5. Work description

The training will employ a participatory approach, combining theoretical sessions with practical, hands-on learning. The methodology includes:

- **Workshops:** Interactive discussions and presentations on CSA practices, value chain integration, and organic certification.
- **Field Demonstrations:** Practical demonstrations on CSA techniques, such as organic farming, composting, water management, and agroforestry.
- **Group Exercises:** Activities related to value chain mapping, organic certification preparation, and collective market strategies.
- **Case Studies:** Real-world examples of successful CSA and value chain initiatives, and case studies on organic certification processes.
- **Farmer Field Schools:** Practical, on-site training in CSA practices that can be replicated at the community level.
- **Training Materials:** Manuals, brochures, and visual aids on CSA practices, value chains, and organic certification for future reference.

6. Main Activities and Outputs

The deliverable outputs outlined in the TOR should ultimately focus on building the participants' capacity to implement climate-smart, sustainable agricultural practices, while enabling them to navigate and benefit from agricultural value chains and organic certification opportunities.

Output 1: Inception Report including Training Sessions Designed and plan for Delivery

- **Detailed Training Agenda and modules:** A well-structured schedule of training sessions, including objectives, topics to be covered (CSA practices, value chain

development, organic certification, and gender-responsive approach), and time allocation for each module.

- **Training Manuals and Presentations:** Comprehensive training materials, including slide presentations, handouts, and technical guides, covering CSA principles, value chain strategies, and organic certification processes. Each training module should contain group exercises, and specific cases for different geo-climatic areas.
- **Practical Guides:** Step-by-step instructional materials on implementing CSA techniques, value chain mapping, and obtaining organic certification, adjusted to each geo-climatic region.
- **Field Demonstration Plans:** Developed and executed field demonstrations on CSA techniques for different geo-climatic areas (such as water-efficient irrigation, conservation agriculture, or organic farming practices). The plans should be developed through the group work to be conducted during the training sessions, highlighting the design of model ecovillages demonstrating comprehensive climate-smart practices. They should include a summary on how to develop and promote climate-resilient crops and advanced agricultural techniques, including required infrastructure that may support climate-resilient agriculture and rural livelihoods, enhance biodiversity and soil health through agroecological farming practices, and the proposed systems and plans for managing sector-specific climate risks in each geo-climatic area.

Output 2: Deliver Training Sessions (one session per geo-climatic region) where each session may take a period of one week, targeting at least 40 participants per session).

- **Training Session Reports:** Documentation of each session delivered, including the number of participants, key topics discussed, and learning outcomes.
- **Participant Attendance Records:** A log of participant attendance at each session to ensure full engagement throughout the program.
- **Resource Distribution Records:** Documented distribution of printed or digital materials provided to all participants, ensuring they have the necessary resources for continued learning.

Output 3: Final Report

- **Engagement and Feedback Reports:** Summaries of participant interaction, feedback, and active involvement in discussions, identifying key areas of interest or concern.
- **Q&A Sessions and Resolutions:** Documentation of questions raised by participants and the corresponding solutions or guidance provided by facilitators.
- **Participant Satisfaction Surveys:** Post-training feedback surveys to assess the quality of the sessions, the relevance of the materials, and the overall satisfaction with the training.
- **Evaluation of Learning Outcomes:** Pre- and post-training assessments to measure knowledge acquisition and understanding of the topics covered.

7. Duration

The services duration will be for **two (2) months** from date of issuance of contract. Specifically, all outputs for the project should be completed by **the end of 2rd month**. The final report is to be submitted at the conclusion of the consultancy.

8. Proposed composition of team

- Number of Experts: 3(Climate Smart Agriculture expert, Climate Change Expert and Gender expert)
- Team Leader/Project Officer : 1
- Number of community trainers /National team members: 5

9. Payment Schedule

- 30% upon signature of Agreement of Cooperation and satisfactory submission of Output 1;
- 60% upon satisfactory submission of Output 2;
- 10% upon satisfactory submission of Output 3.

10. Possible change in the terms and scope of work

Should there be any change in the duration, e.g., possible extension of the term and/or work of scope for the consulting firm, this matter will be discussed in an amicable manner between the service provider entity and UN-Habitat for its realization ensuring mutual interest.

11. Financial Proposal for the Given Level of input (Format attached)

The service providing entity is expected to quote full cost quotation to complete the task within the stipulated time. A detailed Financial Proposal to be submitted quoting the expert costs, staff costs, travel costs, etc in the provided attached format.

No.	Cost item	Unit of Measure	Unit Cost (USD)	Quantity	Amount (USD)
	Personal				
1	Team Leader/Project Officer	month			
2	Climate Smart Agriculture Expert	month			
3	Climate Change Expert	month			
4	Gender Expert	month			
5	Local Staff	per location			
	Operation				
6	Travel cost	per location			
7	Office operation cost	LS			
8	Stationery Printing etc.	LS			
9	Workshop /training venues	per location			
	Other Cost				
10		per location			
11		per location			

	Total proposed cost				
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