

## SCOPE OF WORK

### Quality Vermi compost Production Consultant (local/ international)

#### Under

USAID/Burma Agriculture and Food Systems Development

<b>Performance Period:</b>	5 June 2023 to 30 Sep 2023
<b>Location</b>	Yangon/ Myanmar
<b>Approximate Level of Effort (LOE)</b>	21 Days
<b>Application submission deadline</b>	19 May 2023

#### BACKGROUND

Based in Washington, D.C., ACDI/VOCA is a nonprofit international development organization that delivers technical and management assistance in agribusiness, financial services, enterprise development, community development and food security in order to promote broad-based economic growth and vibrant civil society. For more information, go to [www.acdivoca.org](http://www.acdivoca.org)

The purpose of the USAID Agriculture and Food Systems Development Activity (AFDA) is to facilitate the transformation of agriculture and food systems by increasing productivity, inclusiveness, and competitiveness of the agricultural market system in the zone of influence (ZOI) such as Kachin State, Shan State, Mandalay Region, Sagaing Region and Magway Region. It has four intended outcomes:

- Outcome 1: Increased economic interdependence among market actors of different ethnic backgrounds
- Outcome 2: Increased access to agricultural support services
- Outcome 3: Increased availability of improved inputs
- Outcome 4: Smallholder supply-chains expand domestic and international market access

To achieve these outcomes AFDA will identify existing and potential market opportunities, incentivize firms to invest in their operations and supply chains, while pulling smallholder farmers and rural participants, many in ethnically divided areas, into expanded markets. AFDA will facilitate systemic change by using adaptive management and stakeholder-led processes to facilitate improved conditions and incentives for markets to work better for poor and marginalized populations. This will result in strengthened market linkages and improved service provision, input supply, and post-harvest value addition to meet market demand in a conflict-sensitive manner.

AFDA focus to address accessing the critical constraint of quality seed in three of commodities: horticulture, oilseeds and pulses. AFDA intend to increase the availability of quality improved quality seed in a sustainable manner and increase productivity, inclusiveness and competitiveness of key market segments in the agriculture market systems in the ZOI.

AFDA will pilot innovative technologies and business models to increase availability of quality seeds in horticulture, oilseeds and pulses.

## OBJECTIVE

The objective of this assignment is to analyze the current vermicompost production process of DPT, its production site and management capacity to recommend and design an improved vermicompost production system that is adapted to the production site, the raw material available and the management capacity of DPT to enable the company to meet their production targets and organic certification objective.

## SPECIFIC TASKS

1. Assess current production method and site, including feed stock quality and quantity, productivity and management system, quantity and species of worms used, production constraints, types of vermicompost and/or vermicast produced (e.g. fungal and bacterial), as well as key metrics used by the business to manage production (e.g. moisture, pH, aeration, C:N ratio, etc.) as well as current knowledge of the production and management team.
2. Assess and recommend low-tech system(s) that should be introduced to upgrade and scale-up DPT worm production. Engage with DPT team to discuss pros and cons of proposed solution and relevance to production site, company's vision and capacity. Production system options that should be considered include, but are not limited to windrows, wedge system, continuous flow through/continuous-flow reactor, continuous flow through system, including mechanical and/or manual harvesting processes.
3. Design and support DPT to set up the selected vermicompost system, including management of the system, quantity of worms, eggs management, feedstock requirements (quality, quantity, stock, etc.), harvesting, training for staff, supervisor and management to increase volumes and quality of vermicompost produced and optimize production by mitigating risks (e.g. feed stock, moisture). This task includes providing drawings of the proposed system, the list of material that needs to be procured locally, the quantity and storage of feedstock, etc. The system should be replicable in different areas of the ZOI.
4. Engage with DPT management to consider low-tech technical options to produce vermicompost tea for biopriming using material and equipment locally available, as well as specific types of compost for specific customers.
5. Follow-up meetings with DPT to discuss challenges associated with the new production systems and how to address these for the company to reach its production and outreach targets in terms of number of corporate clients and number of farmer clients. Support company to analyze customers' feedback and where necessary advise the company on how to improve production method and management system.

## DELIVERABLES

The consultant will provide the following deliverables, with payment contingent on AFDA's acceptance:

No.	Description	Period/Due	
1	Reports of SWOT report and presentation about the strength, weaknesses, opportunities and threats of the current production and management systems, as well as recommendations on the proposed system to upgrade and upscale the vermicompost production system.	5-days/2 <sup>nd</sup> week of June 2023	20 %
2	Developed Design and setup the proposed improved vermicompost production system, including specifications adapted to the production site (i.e. length, width, equipment, material, tools, inputs, feed stock quantity, quality, storage, etc) and vermicompost tea production system using locally available material. (Provided drawings of the proposed system, the list of material that needs to be procured locally)	10- days/ 4 <sup>th</sup> week of July 2023	40 %
3	Developed training materials for staff, supervisor and management of Doe Pyi Thit to manage improved vermicompost and vermicompost tea production systems.	2-days/2 <sup>nd</sup> week of August 2023	20 %
4	Final Report and recommendations to address production challenges and questions from DPT after providing training. 1-day for presentation.	4-days/ 2 <sup>nd</sup> week of Sep 2023	20 %

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## QUALIFICATION

- Bachelor/master's degree in agriculture/ Biological and related area.
- Much experience in bio- fertilizer production especially in vermicompost.
- Experience working with farmer/industry/ associations in soil fertility development.
- Experience in agriculture and rural development society.
- Demonstrated successful experience in research, survey and create innovative to full-fill plant nutrient and soil fertility and soil conservation.
- Excellent spoken and written English.

## Duty station

It is expected that this assignment will be conducted in Myanmar. The Vermicompost Consultant needs to work on DPT production site to set up the system and provide training on technically.

## Level of Effort

Payment is based on completed submission of deliverable to be accepted by technical team of AFDA. Estimated level of effort: Up to 21 days over a period of five months

## Expenses

Economic return flight, hotel would be reimbursed based on actuals should the Consultant travel to Myanmar.

## REPORTING

The consultant will report to U Than Zaw Soe, the owner of Doe Pyi Thit, and U Nyein Chan, the Outcome 2&3 Technical Lead, and shall work closely with team members of Outcome 3 and relevant AFDA team members.

## APPLICATION

Interested consultant should submit the profile and workplan to [AFDAprocurement@acdiovocamm.org](mailto:AFDAprocurement@acdiovocamm.org) not later than 19 May 2023, using the following document.

1. CV specifically responding to required qualification.
2. Background of individual consultant.
3. Please include with references of experience, pass accomplishments.
4. Cost proposal – to include the professional fees, including hotel accommodation, local travel, Air ticket based on actual expenses vouchers.

Please include the position title in the subject line. The resume and related application documents shall be provided as a single attachment and list long-term employment history and any relevant short-term consulting work. Please highlight results of work done relevant to this scope of work.

Only shortlisted candidates considered for an interview will be contacted. ACDI/VOCA is an equal opportunity employer. Women, minorities, and people from diverse groups are encouraged to apply.

Remark: The consultant will need to bind all terms and conditions of ACDI/VOCA upon successful application.