



**Terms of Reference for the evaluation of the project “Making the Leeward Green Again
(Mobilising Communities in Likamba Area for Livelihood Improvement and Resilience
Phase 2)**

2024 - 2026

Research, Community and Organizational Development Associates
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1.0 About RECODA

RECODA (Research, Community and Organizational Development Associates) is a local Non-Governmental Organization established in 2000 with the view of bridging technology gap in development through research and development, consultancy, capacity building and facilitating community based projects geared toward poverty alleviation, food security and environmental conservation.

RECODA has since 2003 implemented community economic projects geared towards poverty alleviation, income generation and environmental conservation and in 2013, launched the Rural Initiatives for Participatory Agricultural Transformation (RIPAT) approach.

2.0 Description of the project to be evaluated

Making the Leeward green again: Mobilising Communities in Likamba Area for Livelihood Improvement and Resilience phase 2 is a three-year project implemented in the initial villages (RIPAT start): Likamba, Engalaoni, Nengungu villages in Arusha district council and Olarash village in Monduli district council of Arusha Region. Later the project was spread to Ilkiushin, Ilkerini and Ilkurot in Arusha DC, = Lashaine and Enguiki in Monduli DC by the lead farmers and extension officers, as the RIPAT approach requires.

The project aimed to enhance food security and income for the farmers in the target villages and in the surrounding. It would also contribute to restoration of the land and soil degradation in the villages. Being a dry area, the project will build the farmers capacity to undertake dryland farming, crop diversification and integration of small livestock in the basket of option. The technologies that were introduced aimed at helping the farmers to mitigate the effects of drought and climate change but also, help the farmers to be productive most times of the years. Efforts were made to enlighten the farmers on effects of climate change and how in their daily routine, they can mitigate for climate change and wise use of resources.

From the participation in the groups, using the knowledge gained, it was expected that the productive capacity of each member will be improved, and they will be able to participate in the saving and loan associations. Through this participation, the purchasing and investment power will improve. Furthermore, the advocating capacity of the farmers through the farmer networks was expected to improve and see issues that they have advocated for.

2.1 Target group

Ultimate target group: Men and women aged between 18 – 60 years, Ratio of women to men is 3:2. These are needy families, who are food insecure and poor, mostly women take care of their children in the polygamous families.

Total target: $240 * 5 = 1,200$ family members

Primary target group: 48 technical lead farmers, 8 spreading lead farmers and 4 extension officers and 240 Group members. The lead farmers are literate, adopters of technologies and have the capacity to teach. Selected from amongst the group members

Secondary target group: Local government authority - 4 extension officers; Village leaders – chairman, Village executive officer, village council; Traditional Leaders – According to their ranks in the village
They are largely right holders or technical persons

2.2 The project goal, outcomes and outputs

Long term impact

The poor communities from the drought-ridden leeward side of Mount Meru, Arusha District, have by 2035 developed socially and economically sustainable livelihoods which will uphold their living.

Outcome 1: 100% of the Lead farmers have the capacity to facilitate development interventions in their villages and surrounding environments

- i. Number of lead farmers who have capacity to facilitate the implementation of different technologies
- ii. Number of farmers accessing loans from VSLA groups for improvement of family needs including agricultural investment

Output 1.1: Lead farmers trained on various technologies

- i. Number of lead farmers conversant with at least 3 technologies
- ii. Proportion of groups that have been formed and have constitutions
- iii. Proportion of Lead farmers are working with the farmer associations in production and marketing

Output 1.2: Farmers are organized into RIPAT groups

- i. Number of farmers in RIPAT groups who have received training on different technologies
- ii. Number of farmers who have adopted at least 2 climate smart activities.

Output 1.3: Groups are facilitated to undertake VSLA

- i. Proportion of group members who are receiving loans from the VSLA
- ii. Number of groups undertaking VSLA
- iii. Number of members who are saving
- iv. Number of groups who have formed sister groups

Outcome 2: 70% of the households of the 120 households in the project are food secure and have increased their income by 25%

- i. Proportion of households that with improved access to food throughout the year
- ii. Proportion of households who have increased their income

Output 2.1 Proportion of households that with improved access to food throughout the year

- i. Number of households who have diversified their production
- ii. Number of families that are producing more food than they need

Output 2.2: Proportion of group members producing crops in an environmentally friendly way

- i. Number of households using agroecological (environmentally friendly) ways in production
- ii. Number of households producing poultry using improved methods

Outcome 3: Farmer association formed, strengthened and influencing community to take action on issues affecting them.

- i. Farmer associations have improved their capacity in governance and advocacy at ward and district level.
- ii. The farmer associations have developed advocacy strategy for one issue in their community

Output 3.1: Farmer association has developed rules and regulations for running the organization

- i. Constitution of the farmer associations in place
- ii. One learning trip undertaken by the association

Output 3.2: Farmer association has capacity to identify advocacy issues and to advocate for them

- i. Association had identified issues to advocate for in their village

Output 3.3: RECODA has collected data to advocate for RIPAT approach's wide use

- i. Documentation of the success of RIPAT has been done

Output 3.4: Opinion (traditional leaders) support gender equity and equality

2 Workshop with traditional and religious leaders held

3.0 Evaluation Objectives.

3.1 Overall objective

The overall objective of the evaluation is to assess the emerging results and progress towards impact that the programme is having on the people and communities from interventions under the “Making the Leeward green again: Mobilising Communities in Likamba Area for Livelihood Improvement and Resilience phase 2” . Findings and recommendations will be used in designing a subsequent phase of the project to consolidate and strengthen the results achieved so far .

3.2 Purpose of the evaluation:

- i. This evaluation will provide an analysis of the intermediate results
- ii. The evaluation will capture emerging lessons through engagement with project team, stakeholders and target groups
- iii. The evaluation will provide recommendations for subsequent programming in Likamba Area

3.3 Specific objectives

- *Relevance of interventions* -The evaluation will examine the extent to which the intervention objectives and design respond to target group needs and priorities, as well as alignment with national, global and partner policies and priorities.
- *Impact of interventions* - The evaluation will assess the extent to which the interventions have generated significant positive or negative, intended or unintended, higher-level effects through the RIPAT approach
- *Effectiveness of interventions* -The evaluation will assess the extent to which the intervention achieved, or is expected to achieve, its objectives and its results, while taking into account the relative importance of the objectives.
- *Efficiency of interventions* - The evaluation will assess the extent to which the intervention delivered, results in an economic and timely way.
- *Coherence* – The evaluation will examine the extent to which other interventions in the project area support or undermine the intervention and vice versa.
- *Sustainability*-The evaluation will assess the extent to which the net benefits of the intervention continue or are likely to continue.
- *Lessons* -The evaluation will systematically and thoughtfully capture and document lessons emerging from the project

The evaluation criterion above will be aligned to assessment of project responsiveness to crosscutting themes, inbuilt spreading mechanisms in projects applying RIPAT extension approach, effectiveness of Lead Farmers under farmer-to-farmer extension approach (RIPAT Model)(Climate smart agriculture (CSA) and the adoption and diffusion of the innovations, federations/associations of RIPAT- Groups and Groups Capacity Development and Advocacy

5.0 Evaluation Methodology

Data collection methods will include (not limited to) the following:-

(a) Documentary review

The evaluation team will review documents from district, ward and villages in solicitation of relevant information. In addition to that RECODA documentation will also be of paramount importance during the evaluation exercise and this will include various program reports.

(b) Focus group Discussions (FGD)

The evaluation team will collect information from various focus groups in the project area. The groups will include community leaders, women groups, men, youth, opinion leaders, key informants, RIPAT/Farmer groups and the farmer networks.

(c) Key Informant Interview (KII)

The evaluation team may carry out KII with important focal persons at the District Project Coordinator (DPC), Ward and Village level. These may include DAICO, DED and DEO, District registrar of NGOs and any other person involved in development work in the area of operation and beyond.

(d) Household interview

This involves collection of information from the households. Technical personnel and enumerators will be involved in this stage.

(e) Observation

The team will observe physical conditions, use of facilities, functioning of facilities and behavior of interviewee and their surroundings. Where possible several photos can be taken.

(f) Determination of Sample Size

The consultant will propose the sample size and how to select it.

(g) Gender Analysis

Community members (male and female/youth) from all age groups are expected to be part and parcel of the exercise through representation.

(h) Sampling Frame

This evaluation survey covers all 4 villages of the programme area and at least 2 spreading villages. In normal circumstance mainly the group members will be assessed as the representatives of the household. Otherwise an adult person found in the sampled household with group members will be interviewed.

6.0 Organization of the work

- i. The consultant will plan and share a detailed methodology for the evaluation including sampling, inclusion and engagements
- ii. RECODA will organize the field work and provide transport for the consultancy team.

7.0 Output

The output of this evaluation exercise:

- i. A brief inception report (methodology)
- ii. A debriefing note to RECODA prior to the departure of the review team
- iii. A draft review report
- iv. An online session on sharing results from the draft report and discussing strategic feed into a new third project phase with RECODA and PULS
- v. A final review report

8.0 Timeline:

- i. 27'th July 12th Aug: Evaluation
- ii. 15'th August: Draft review report
- iii. 17 'th August : Online session with PULS, RECODA
- iv. 31'th August: Final review report
 - o An executive summary
 - o A section on the methodology
 - o Findings and an analysis of the findings
 - o A section on lessons learnt/best practices
 - o Sustainability and exit strategies including viability of development process, social and institutional/organizational
 - o Recommendations to take into account for future projects
 - o A conclusion in which an opinion is stated about the impact of the project, organised per specific objective

9.0 The evaluator's Profile

The consultant will describe the team of evaluation and the lead consultant should have the following qualities:

- Good methodological experience in the external evaluation of agricultural, socio—economic and environmental development programmes.
- Mastery of evaluation methodologies for rural development programmes based on DAC criteria.
- Good understanding of food systems
- Perfect command of written and spoken English and Kiswahili
- Should be a registered company
- Knowledge of the Rural Initiatives for Participatory Agricultural Transformation.

10. Payment arrangement

The proposed contract will be a service provision contract.

- i. Payment for the service will be made through bank transfer after receipt of invoices from the consultant.
- ii. The payment for the consultant's per diem and transport shall be made via MPESA or bank transfer at the beginning of the evaluation.
- iii. The consultancy fee will be paid 50% at the beginning of the work and 50% after completion of the work.
- iv. The consultancy fee is subject to 5% Withholding Tax.

11. Necessary documents will be made available upon selection of consultant.

12. Deadline of submission of the Technical and Financial proposal is 19th July 2026.