

**International Consultant UNDP Brazil
Framework of Food Security Policies in India**

TERMS OF REFERENCE

PROJECT: BRA/06/032 – Brasil 3 Tempos

SUBPROJECT (DEX): ACTIVITY 2: Comparative Study on Food Security: Brazil, India and South Africa –
Framework of Food Security Policies in India

CONTRACT MODALITY: SSA (for individuals; international consultant)

1) GENERAL CONTEXT

The International Policy Centre for Inclusive Growth (IPC-IG) is a joint project between the United Nations Development Programme and the Brazilian Government to facilitate South-South Cooperation on key development issues. It specializes in offering research-based policy recommendations for inclusive growth. By encouraging South-South cooperation, the centre specifically aims to expand the knowledge base and capacities of developing countries to design and implement nationally-owned poverty reduction strategies. Toward these ends, IPC-IG will conduct research, organize thematic workshops, hold policy training seminars, deploy advisory missions to requesting countries, and host resident researchers from various countries.

IPC-IG's Rural and Sustainable Development team was created in 2009. It focuses on multisectoral policies that jointly tackle diverse dimensions of sustainability, with 3 sub-thematic areas: a) poverty, gender and climate; b) poverty and environment nexus; c) food security and rural livelihoods.

Attaining food security implies the double challenge of ensuring proper food supply as well as broad access to food. On one hand, support to agricultural production needs to be key in development agendas. This support should benefit the rural poor, providing opportunities to strengthen livelihoods through stable sources of cash and sources of food. On the other hand, ensuring that all people, and especially the most vulnerable, have access to provisions reinforces the need for support to food access in both rural and urban areas.

In this context, IPC-IG is interested in analyzing food security initiatives in different countries in order to identify innovative policies /programmes and foster international debate on the challenges and opportunities concerning experiences in the area.

2) CONTEXT OF THE SUBPROJECT

Brazil, India and South Africa collectively represent nearly 1.365 billion people (World Bank, 2009) - which represents about 20% of the world's population. Although the three countries have demonstrated the potential for transformative growth in the South, their development experience is marked by key challenges such as the relevant levels of poverty, inequality, and food insecurity that

continue to exist for significant numbers of people. According to available FAO and IFPRI estimates, the proportion of undernourished people in India, Brazil and South Africa are respectively 21%, 6% and 5%, totalizing over 250 million people (IFPRI 2009) (FAO 2009).

IPC-IG is engaged in fostering policy dialogue among the three countries in the context of the IBSA forum. India, Brazil and South Africa are crucial poles for increasing South-South learning with important potential for debate concerning development policy initiatives that focus on food security.

A multi-dimensional framework of public policies and programmes is necessary to tackle the different aspects of food security. Food production can be supported through access to agricultural inputs, technical assistance, facilitated markets and others. On the other hand, programmes that focus on food access for vulnerable groups can assume various forms, such as public procurement, mid-day meals, public food distribution, cash or in-kind vouchers. Programmes that aim at alleviating poverty and contribute to reduce the transmission of poverty between generations by encouraging investment in human and social capital can also have important impact on food security. The convergence among policy frameworks and the consequent multi-institutional enrolment are therefore crucial aspects in food security initiatives. This multi-stakeholder arrangement can be completed by the engagement of civil society and the implementation of social accountability mechanisms.

In this context, IPC-IG will carry out a comparative analysis of the policy framework for food security in these countries, in order to identify and examine critical issues, good practice and visible impacts and key points for knowledge exchange within the multilateral group known as IBSA. The current study is part of this analytical process. It will provide an understanding of the policy framework in India with particular focus on key areas that can contribute to the wider global data on food security and its practice, as specified below.

3) OBJECTIVE

The primary objective is to conduct a comprehensive review of the policy framework for food security in India, highlighting its conceptual and operational mechanisms, innovative aspects, major achievements, existing challenges and links with complementary policy frameworks.

a) Specific Objectives

The papers should:

1. Present the context of food security policies in terms of their strategic framework including national development strategy, with focus on its conceptual references and major priorities;
2. Analyze the progress in the institutionalization of legal and programming mechanisms that ensure the right to food at national level;
3. Examine the impact of existing agricultural support policies in achieving food security, exploring their role in providing sustainable sources of cash as well as food to the rural poor;

4. Discuss the role of major existing programmes (i.e. conditional cash transfers) which provide entitlements in cash and kind in contributing to food security;
5. Examine the convergence between programmes within the food security framework and with complementary frameworks (such as social protection and rural development) including existing mechanisms of multi-institutional / multi-ministry management; and
6. Analyze the social accountability mechanisms in place in the policy framework for food security, identifying their functioning and limitations.

b) Specific Deliverables

Product 1: 10 to 15 page discussion paper, in English, containing: a) the overall scenario of food security in the country; b) the framework of food security policies, in accordance with the objectives above; c) indication of the major innovations, achievements and challenges of the framework;

Product 2: final 35 to 40 page report, excluding annexes, in English, in accordance with the objectives above, presenting a comprehensive review.

4) TIMEFRAME

The assignment will be conducted over a period of six (6) weeks.

5) SUPERVISION

General supervision and final payment approval will be done by the UNDP Country Office for Brazil. Specifically, approval and oversight will be provided by Mr. Carlos Ferreira Castro, Development and Environment Unit Coordinator at UNDP Brazil, who manages the Project BRA/06/032.

The technical supervision, including the approval of the products will be under the responsibility of the Rural and Sustainable Development team of IPC-IG, which shall be the focal point for all clarifications and ongoing technical support. The contractor shall consider and include the comments and suggestions of IPC-IG, the UNDP Country Office and its collaborators in the finalization of all submissions herein.

6) DUTY STATION

Home based. All travel expenses related to this consultancy must be considered in the financial proposal to be submitted by the consultant.

7) PROFILE OF THE CONSULTANT

a) Necessary qualifications

- Advanced university degree (Masters Degree or equivalent) in Economics, Development Studies, Social Sciences or related field;

- Technical experience in the areas of food security, rural development or related field;
- Excellent verbal and written skills in English;
- Academic or professional experience in the Indian policy context;
- Immediate availability.

Candidates who do not meet the above requirements will not be considered.

b) Desired qualifications

- Proven publications record, preferably peer-reviewed papers and journals focused on food security or related fields;
- 5 years of academic or programme/ policy experience in food security or related area.
- Strong policy analysis skills.

8) VERIFICATION OF QUALIFICATIONS

The consultant will only be contracted under submission of required documents to prove the compliance with the qualifications specified in item 7.

9) PAYMENT

The payment shall be made in the following manner:

- First tranche of 40% on timely submission and approval by IPC-IG of Product 1 (within 20 days of signature of the contract);
 - Second tranche of 60% on timely submission and approval by IPC-IG and UNDP Brazil of Product 2 (within 45 days of signature of the contract).
- a) The products will be submitted to analysis and final approval of UNDP Brazil jointly with a representative from the Rural and Sustainable Development team of IPC-IG.
- b) The products will only be paid for if they effectively respond to the technical requirements of this ToR and are presented at the expected quality level.

10) AVAILABILITY

The candidate shall be available to start immediately.

11) DOCUMENTS FOR APPLICATION

Envelope 1:

- CV;
- At least one published academic or applied research sample;
- 1 page technical proposal stating the approach to be used for the work specified in the ToR;
- 3 references from previous clients.

Envelope 2:

- Financial proposal per product and for the entire consultancy, in a closed envelope, separate from the CV. The values to be considered shall be in gross figures, including all legal taxes.

SELECTION & EVALUATION CRITERION

Submissions which do not meet the requirements of this ToR will not be considered.

1. EVALUATION OF TECHNICAL QUALIFICATIONS

The technical evaluation will be done in a rating system of 100 points. The evaluation process will be organized in 3 phases:

a) Phase 1 (not rated)

Analysis of CV in accordance to the necessary qualifications. Candidates who do not meet the requirements specified in part 7a will not be considered for Phase 2.

b) Phase 2 (rated)

Analysis of the CV, technical proposal, relevant publication and evaluation of references (70 points). The criteria for the analysis are specified in the table below:

Rating Criteria - Phase 2	
Criterion	Rate
Proven publications record, preferably peer reviewed papers and journals focused on food security or related field	10 points
Years of academic or programme/ policy experience in food security or related area	15 points
Policy analysis skills	10 points
Academic or professional experience in the Indian policy context	10 points
Relevance and quality of the technical proposal	15 points
Evaluation of references	10 points
Maximum rate for phase 2	70 points

Candidates who attain less than **49 points** in Phase 2 will not be considered for Phase 3.

c) Phase 3 (rated)

Interview (30 points)

- The interview will be held by telephone;
- The criteria to be used for the interview are: analysis of required qualifications and knowledge of the theme of the consultancy.

2. EVALUATION OF FINANCIAL PROPOSAL – Final Evaluation

Only the financial proposals of the candidates whose evaluation rate reaches at least **70 points** will be opened (Phase 2 + Phase 3).

The evaluation of the financial proposals will be based on the proposed values, considering from the lowest to the highest price. The winner will therefore be the candidate whose financial proposal establishes the lowest price. Overall, the best value for money defines the selected candidate as the lowest price is used as a factor only on the evaluation of financial proposal, after phases 1, 2 and 3 which technically evaluate the candidates, have been concluded.

3. SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS

This hiring process will be conducted by the UNDP Brazil jointly with a representative from the Rural and Sustainable Development team of IPC-IG, in accordance to UNDP's Rules and Regulations (simplified selection process and hiring through SSA).