

Call for short documentary movie on agro-ecology in Tunisia

TERMS OF REFERENCE: for a production of a documentary on impacts of climate change and gender norms and practices on rural women farmers and their successful transformative agro-ecological strategies in Tunisia.

SUMMARY

Heinrich Boll Foundation (HBF) seeks a) to document the impact of climate change on the livelihoods of rural women farmers, b) to understand the ways their gender intersects with and is impacted by other social factors such as gender roles, expectations and other social norms and practices held in their localities (intersectional factors) that affect especially women's social-economic empowerment in Senegal, Morocco, Nigeria and Tunisia, and c) to collect success stories on novel and transformative agro-ecological responses led by women in the four contexts.

HBF is producing the documentaries as part of its "Transform Africa" projects. The documentaries will be accompanied by a short paper or booklet on the same subject. The documentaries will form part of advocacy materials that will be used on both new and traditional media to influence decision-makers within and outside the continent in order to provide support to scale up adoption of agro-ecological practices and support women small holder farmers.

BACKGROUND

African societies are mainly patriarchal with social norms and gender roles that discourage women's ownership of property. Women's access to and control over land remains very low in most African societies. They often only have access through their husbands and lose access on the death of their husbands or they have to borrow, rent or join cooperatives to have access. In some cases, they only have access to land with poor soil quality. The small holder women farmers are also not often beneficiaries of governments' programs as they remain the bulk of the illiterate population in most countries. The majority of them also dwell in the rural areas and their

access to information and to the government agencies/offices are limited. While government in the bid to attract foreign direct investments offer tax breaks, access to low interest financing and other incentives to multinational agro-business corporations, similar incentives are not offered to women. Where they exist, they are concentrated in urban locations difficult to access by rural women farmers. Women are therefore left to manage on their own dealing with flooding and rising sea levels and salinization which cause massive erosion of the coastline and degradation of soil quality thereby reducing arable land. The little that is produced by women is also impacted by post-harvest challenges including lack of post-harvest handling facilities, lack of storage facilities, lack of transport and inadequate market access information and these lock women in a cycle of poverty. Despite the gloomy situation, there are evidences across the continent which demonstrates that when women are trained on agro-ecological approaches, they have adopted these approaches and using locally available materials make organic compost that has improved soil quality resulting in improved harvest. As part of the agro-ecological approaches, women have been trained on transformation and processing of their produce and have taken up other value chain activities that have improved their access to market. This has improved their quality of live and their families' resilience to climate change.

The Documentaries:

The four documentaries will be filmed in Senegal, Morocco, Nigeria and Tunisia. In each country, a local film maker will be selected to capture stories of women small holder farmers practicing agro-ecology. The documentaries will also seek to highlight clearly the transformational message: from agro-business under a patriarchal system which blocks changes of models /regimes in agriculture, discouraging women to access land and assets (including financial and information assets) towards a food sovereignty and agro ecology principles for a new agro-food system management. The documentaries will also focus on intersectional impacts and threats of climate change in concomitance with other multiple stressors of women in a patriarchal system.

OBJECTIVES

The main goal for the documentary on Tunisia is to produce a film on the impacts of climate change on women small holder farmers and their responses. Specific objectives of the documentary are:

1. Create a portrait of women farmers practicing agro-ecology and dealing with the patriarchal system, and working on good practice of adaption to face the impact of climate change.
2. Document the impacts of multiple gendered drivers of change and barriers that further compound their experience with climate change
3. Identify and document success stories of best agro-ecological practices, which are climate resilient and improving livelihood of women farmers in Tunisia

KEY OUTCOMES:

- A 10 to 15 minutes' documentary providing insight into the impacts of climate change on women small holder farmers in Tunisia and other gender barriers that they face in their specific context.
- The documentary will include clips of success stories of best agro-ecological practices adopted by the women and document coping mechanisms against patriarchic social structures.

THE TASK

The film makers will participate in writing the initial story board, working in strict collaboration with the responsible contact person from HBF in Tunisia. The story board as well as the exact film location and the interlocutors will be agreed upon jointly with HBF.

The film makers will produce the documentary working closely with HBF local partners who will facilitate access to interlocutors in local communities.

SCOPE OF WORK

- The film makers will design a story board and refine it with input of the project team.
- Agree on relevant guiding questions with the project team.
- Shoot the documentary in the community and produce a clean copy to submit to the project team.
- She/he will also be asked to disseminate the final product through her/his networks, social media and in specific events (e.g. conferences, exhibitions etc.) after finalization of the product.

METHODOLOGY

The film maker is expected to produce an engaging film depicting women narrating their stories with passion stating clearly what they each experience and what they have done to overcome. The selection of women to be interviewed will take into consideration the diverse socio-cultural factors that exist in Tunisia respectively the given region of the country where the women reside, ethnicity, marital status, literacy level, living with disability etc. The documentary will also highlight how climate change is having a huge impact on women farmers coupled with the gender challenges that limit women arising from patriarchal and socio-cultural issues. The documentary will also try to explain the potential change that could arise as a result of agro-forestry practices in these areas as well.

FORMAT

The film will be shot in HD format (1080P) and delivered in mp4 HD format (1080p). For uniformity in color and quality. The film maker will provide her/his own final edit without color grading and documentary should be shot with DSLR cameras.

DELIVERABLES

- Develop the script and story board with national partners & HBF support
- Review of script and story board with national partners & HBF
- Shoot footage in agreed locations
- Produce first cut and submit to project team for review
- Revise and finalize the film according to comments and suggestions from the project staff

PROFILE OF THE CONSULTANT FILM MAKER:

The consultant will be hired according to the evaluation of the following qualifications, expertise and skills required for the assignment:

Experience:

- The consultants to be recruited should have the following experiences;
 - Recognized ability in Digital Video Production with clear and cinematic visuals
 - Recognized ability in Script Writing and Story Boarding
 - Previous experience in producing social critic documentaries
 - Familiarity with local normative context in Tunisia
 - Excellent directing skills
 - Proficiency in French and Arabic

Given the sensitiveness of the topic, a woman filmmaker will be favored for the work.

Technical offer:

The consultant should take into consideration the following technical elements that will serve as a basis for the selection:

- A presentation of the consultant, experience in the field of the design and production of audiovisual media in English or French,
- Samples of previous work can be attached to the offer to show experience
- The curriculum vital (V) of the staff who will be in charge of the work, the CV should highlight the professional experience
- The list of technical equipment for the realization of the project,
- Proposal for a film synopsis
- A technical proposal to drive the production of the film
- A working chronogram
- A detailed budget

TIMELINE

After receiving the final comments and suggestions from the project staff, the consultant should re-submit a final version of the film in a maximum time of 15 days from the finalization of the contract. After the final submission, the HBF will proceed to the final payment.

The documentary shall be shot, produced and finalized between July and October 2018.

The applications should be submitted by email to:

Email: soufyane.fares@ma.boell.org

Complete application documents should be submitted by 30 June 2018.