

# Terms of Reference

## Consultancy Assignment - Biodiversity & Food System partnership support

Date: 15/08/2024

### 1. Background

The Netherlands Food Partnership (NFP) enables and facilitates community engagement, partnerships and coalitions between relevant Dutch organizations and international partners to achieve urgent changes that contribute to more sustainable food systems, which in turn lead to ending hunger, food and nutrition security and the promotion of sustainable agriculture in low and middle income countries.

Action to ensure attention for biodiversity in food systems transformation processes are understood by NFP and partners in the network as crucial in achieving Sustainable Development Goal 2: Zero Hunger. Not merely because of the need to protect biodiversity itself, but also because of the important contribution of biodiversity for ensuring long-term resilient and sustainability of food systems and nutritious diets. The Netherlands Food Partnership is therefore exploring and actively setting up activities focused on strengthening the integration of biodiversity into food systems. This initiative aims to jointly explore, identify, and implement collaborative actions to enhance biodiversity's role in sustainable food systems. To ensure comprehensive guidance and expertise, we seek a consultant to support and contribute to this work.

### 2. Objective

The purpose of this assignment is for the consultant to play a pivotal role in supporting the 2024 workplan on biodiversity and food systems, exploring the potential partnership, and offering specialised guidance and knowledge for the development and execution of the 2025 workplan. This role aims to establish a vibrant network of partners, identifying the focus and activities that are dedicated to advancing sustainable practices, policies and support within the intricate landscape of biodiversity and food systems.



### 3. Planned activities

The following activities are to be undertaken, as outlined on the next page.

Activities
Identify and consult with strategic partners across national, regional and international spheres who invest in biodiversity and food systems with the goal to strengthen our network in this field of work.
Identifying critical and shared leverage points and needs by engaging with diverse stakeholders from private sector, knowledge institutes, policy and civil society
Building a collaborative action agenda based on insights on leverage points for 2025 and supporting the implementation of this agenda in 2025.
Organise and support networking events, compile and disseminate evidence-based knowledge, fostering a robust learning community focused on biodiversity and food systems

### 4. Qualifications

The ideal candidate should possess:

- Demonstrated expertise and knowledge concerning biodiversity, food systems, and food and nutrition security.
- Proven experience in policy development, stakeholder engagement, and collaborative action planning.
- Proven networking and analytical skills to identify opportunities and energy for potential partnerships by building and maintaining relationships.
- Strong communication skills and the ability to work collaboratively in a multidisciplinary team.
- Proactive, independent, and creative problem-solving abilities.
- Excellent command of the English language and preferably Dutch speaking.

### 5. Deliverables

The consultant is expected to deliver the following:

1. A database of strategic partners and stakeholders from private sector, knowledge institutes, policy and civil society that are involved in biodiversity and food systems and food and nutrition security.
2. A collaborative action agenda based on identified leverage points, providing advice to NFP for further engagement on biodiversity & food systems.
3. Organization and execution of networking and knowledge-sharing events in collaboration with strategic partners.



## 6. Duration, budget and location

The consultancy is expected to begin in Q3 2024 for an assignment of about 2 days a week until the end of 2024. We would like the consultant to start as soon as possible. At the end of the contract period, a review will determine whether and how activities can be planned for 2025.

The budget for this consultancy will be determined based on the consultant's level of expertise, experience, and the agreement on the exact scope of work.

We seek a candidate open to spending time at our office, located in Utrecht, The Netherlands, fostering integration and collaboration within our team.

## 7. Contact persons

Contact person regarding this assignment:

NFP : Mariëlle Karssenbergh, Knowledge Broker, Netherlands Food Partnership

## 8. Reporting

The consultant will report directly to Mariëlle Karssenbergh and collaborate closely with the rest of the Netherlands Food Partnership team.

## 9. Submission

Interested candidates are invited to submit their CV and short motivation letter to:

[mkarssenbergh@nlfoodpartnership.com](mailto:mkarssenbergh@nlfoodpartnership.com) and [rshinkel@nlfoodpartnership.com](mailto:rshinkel@nlfoodpartnership.com)

Please ensure that your application is submitted before 09.00 on September 2, 2024. Selected candidates will be invited for a conversation in the following week.

We look forward to reviewing your application.