



HUAIROU COMMISSION
Women, Homes & Community

TERMS OF REFERENCE:

Stocktaking HC members knowledge and contributions to food systems

Context

Huairou Commission (HC) is a global women-led social movement of grassroots organizations in 42+ countries leading a transformative agenda for inclusive resilience and gender justice. Since 1995 our member groups have been building the leadership capacity of grassroots women, enhancing the resilience of their communities, and advocating for change in the systems that govern local and global development.

The members of Huairou Commission are working to transform food systems in their communities and beyond. To scale up innovative initiatives and drive a grassroots-led political strategy we have organized a community of practice and aim to convene a global grassroots food systems gathering in 2024. Our strategy is anchored by the experience and expertise of organized groups of grassroots women living and working in impoverished urban, rural and indigenous communities across the global south.

We are looking for a consultant to support our efforts to document our current practices and to gather, aggregate and analyze evidence to inform our collaborative learning agenda and advocacy campaign.

This initiative is supported through the Dutch-funded program: “Fair for All: Improving Value Chains at scale” – through a consortium that includes Oxfam Novib, Third World Network and SOMO. “Fair for All” aims to contribute to more inclusive and sustainable trade and value chains.

Huairou’s contribution to the programme builds on targeted multi-year efforts in four countries (India, Brazil, Kenya and Uganda) and a Global Practice Community focused on 1) consolidating a bottom-up vision for resilient, inclusive, fair, and sustainable food systems considering their impact on livelihoods, food security and nutrition, and the environment, 2) identifying changes needed to achieve our vision, and 3) designing and implementing a collective advocacy campaign. 36 members across Asia, Africa and Latin America currently participate in the practice community.

Objective of the Consultancy

Take stock of HC members knowledge, practices, innovations and contributions to food system transformation and articulate/structure them within a knowledge framework that supports HC efforts to build a collective learning and a political agenda so that grassroots can position their priorities in global and national policy spaces.

1. Understand main characteristics of those food systems where HC members are engaging and problems they are trying to address

2. Map practices implemented currently or in the past and identify relevant innovations led by HC members
3. Estimate contributions made by HC members to the transformation of food systems
4. Define a knowledge framework that can guide HC in organizing a learning agenda and a political agenda to position grassroots women priorities in relevant policy spaces

Deliverables

- Detailed Inventory and description of practices undertaken by 36 members
- Written report with an overview of members engagement in food systems (type of value chains, problems they are addressing), their main contributions to food systems transformation and identification of key innovations led by members
- Proposal of framework for knowledge management to anchor a political and learning agenda

Core Responsibilities and timeline

- Design the structure of the inventory of practices and data collection tools
- Brief HC Food Systems' Community of Practice (CoP) on methodology and guide members on use of data collection tools
- Compile data from members and complete information when needed with interviews.
- Review and present a knowledge framework to structure and organize members expertise and contributions as well as to anchor a political agenda
- Present outcomes and brief HC CoP members by 17 October 2023

Qualifications and work experiences

Working knowledge with food systems including the technical, economic and political aspects of food systems that support local livelihoods, nutrition, food security and environment. Desirable demonstrated experience in:

- writing strong evidence-based reports (English required, Spanish desirable)
- constructing knowledge platforms
- designing and facilitating learning (including through surveys and focus groups) across diverse constituencies and geographies
- Collaborating with grassroots women's organization recognizing the expertise of grassroots women and the appropriate role of professional support

Submission of proposals

Interested candidates please send resume, letter of interest and technical proposal to Rocio Diaz-Agero, Programme Manager, at rocio.diaz-agero@huairou.org, by 17 September 2023. Proposals will be reviewed as received and may select a candidate before the closing date. Based on the quality of work contract could be extended to support HC to shape a grassroots-led political strategy and convene a global grassroots food systems gathering in 2024.