Federal Government of Somalia
Terms of Reference
ICT Consultant for Somali Bureau of Standards

Type of appointment:	Consultant
Project:	De-Risking, Inclusion and Value Enhancement of Pastoral Economies Project (DRIVE-176517)
Duration:	12 months
Duty station:	Mogadishu, Somalia

1. Background
1.1. Somali Bureau of Standards (SoBS)

Somali Bureau of Standards (SoBS) was established by the Standards and Quality Control Act Law No. 27 in 2020. It has been given authority to control product quality and the safety of consumers. SoBS mandate covers standardization, metrology, conformity assessment activities, inspection testing, and certification. SoBS is governed by an inter-ministerial board of stockholders.

The main objectives of the Somali Bureau of Standards are:
- Establish robust quality infrastructure for Somalia (standards, metrology, accreditation, and conformity assessment)
- Protect the safety of consumers from harmful and substandard products imported to Somalia.
- Promote export through standards harmonization.
- Support standardization of local production.
- Affiliating to the regional and international standard bodies and contributing to the efforts made in standard development.

1.2. DRIVE Project

Under the Horn of Africa Initiative, the World Bank is financing the De-Risking, Inclusion and Value Enhancement of Pastoral Economies Project (DRIVE). DRIVE aims to protect pastoralists against drought shocks, using a package of financial services including drought insurance, payment, savings and possibly credit, and to connect pastoralists better to markets by upgrading the livestock value chains and facilitating the regional livestock trade. This is a regional project is with Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia participating. The development objective is to enhance de-risking, financial inclusion and value addition of pastoral economies in the HoA.

The project has two components.

Component 1: De-Risking and Finance that will involve scale up financial protection for pastoralists across the HoA with a cost-effective package of financial products and services, including insurance, savings and (contingent) credit. To meet the needs of the pastoralists and provide cost-effective protection, the best financial products would be a mix of insurance and banking (savings and credit) products.

Component 2: Livestock Value Chains and Trade Facilitation - this component intends to connect pastoralists better to markets, by upgrading the livestock value chains and facilitating trade. The targeted beneficiaries are pastoralists who already have some connections to markets but derive limited value from their livestock-rearing activities. The production groups who benefit from component 1 would be linked to investment opportunities generated under component 2. The component will also support private investment in the livestock value chains that will lead to higher incomes for pastoral producers. This component is intentionally focused on complementing existing interventions on pastoral production systems, facilitating livestock trade and mobilization of private investment into the livestock value chains

2. Justification of the position

SOBS must have ICT integrated systems, online certification schemes, and a quality mark database that would facilitate the customer's subscription for the different quality marks and purchasing certifications through an online system across the country. To effectively control the quality of imported goods, SOBS must use an online-based Pre-export Verification of Conformity (PVoC) application system that would check and inspect the consignments before they enter the country.

SOBS has a critical role in facilitating trade by integrating certification systems to the Single Window, being developed by the Ministry of Commerce and Industries, which will give customers of the agency a streamlined and online platform to comply with export requirements including livestock and its products. This would be an integrated database system that would uniformly check, track and assess the overall consignments being exported and imported from/into the country's seaports, airports, and border checkpoints. Moreover, this system will be connected with the quality control labs, including the reference lab and inspection equipment which would enable the bureau to have an integrated system for quality control and access to all beneficiaries and customers to develop the quality of imported and exported products.

The ICT consultant would be responsible for evaluating and reviewing requests from managers, technicians, and engineers for system modifications, estimating the costs of the components or system operations, maintenance, and implementations of system databases. The Consultant will be in charge of supervising equipment maintenance, preparing performance and system activity reports, developing new online systems, evaluating and testing software and hardware to determine reliability and compatibility, and efficiency with existing systems, and maintaining, implementing, and developing system disaster recovery plans so that to ensure business continuity.

3. Roles and Responsibilities

1. Support and advise the establishment a sound, adequate, and up-to-date online certification system for livestock traders and procedures to access the requested application of the SOBS certification systems.
2. Lead the process of establishing and developing an online platform for implementing the guidelines of the purchasing ISO standards, SOBS standards and quality marks and Halal Marks for export livestock and its products.
3. The ICT consultant would be responsible for the development process of an online system platform for the clients, both national and international, to request the application of Pre-shipment Verification of Conformity (PVoC), and Product Conformity assessment (PCA), including exporting livestock and its product.
4. Create an online service portal that SOBS can propose to its clients for standardization requests, Somalia standards catalog, and provide both export and import inspection requirement details.
5. Assist the ICT supporting programs, both hardware, and software, of the quality testing and calibration labs.
6. Develop and maintain the quality infrastructure information management system to improve the proper management and decision-making process of QI data.
7. Responsible for developing the ICT, MIS, information management security policies, and other relevant ICT-related technical guidelines and TORs.
8. Responsible for overseeing the risk management of the MIS, information classification, protection, and accountability, and providing training as demanded.
9. Ensure that the bureau's information security is airtight by recommending third-party vendors that provide information security services and products.
10. Ensure monitoring data, system logs, and authorizations are reviewed periodically to comply with policy requirements. Supports application configuration and security setup as needed.
11. Support and advise the ministry of livestock with identification and livestock traceability systems and implementing security protocols and procedures to prevent potential threats of IT systems for drive project beneficiaries.

4. Deliverables and KPIs and payments

1. Develop TORs, guidelines and polices to guide online system platform and database (1 month). 10 percent of the contract
2. Develop online platforms for certification, purchasing standards and request for application the PVOC and PCA SOBS programs (4 months) 30 percent of the contract
3. Develop an integrated database system for all QI programs across the country, and connect with the livestock value chain of the project (4 months) 30 percent of the contract
4. Develop an ICT policy with a concrete implementation and maintenance plan (2 months) 20 percent of the contract
5. Develop information security management protocols, recovery plans, and guidelines (1 month) 10 percent of the contract.
6. Payments against deliverables

5. **Qualifications and Experience**
    1. University Degree from an accredited University in a relevant discipline (e.g., Computer / Communication Engineering, Information Technology, or equivalent)
    2. Minimum 6 years of experience working in ICT configuration and installation systems
    3. Minimum five years' experience in technical design and architecture roles
    4. Current or previous experience in configuring, operating, architecting, and designing security solutions for technology initiatives
    5. Good Interpersonal and team working skills
    6. Excellent IT skills, including use of different software and management
    7. Excellent written and spoken English
    8. Written and spoken fluency in Somali will be an added advantage
    9. Experience working in a Fragile State environment is desirable
    10. Experience developing code in AT LEAST ONE high-level programing language (e.g. Java, JavaScript, Python, PowerShell).
    11. Experience in automation/testing via scripting/programing.
    12. Experience with automation products like Chef, Terraform and Ansible are a plus.
    13. Ability to grasp high level concepts to create technical solutions to meet business needs.
    14. Outstanding analytical and problem-solving skills, including the ability to define problems and analyze the root cause
    15. Experience in developing web services and APIs
    16. Knowledge of developing web applications utilizing HTML5, JQuery, Angular and JavaScript for UI components.
    17. Knowledge of Authentication protocols (e.g., OAuthv2, OpenID, OpenID Connect, SAML) is an advantage.
    18. Outstanding analytical and problem-solving skills, including the ability to define problems and analyze the root cause.
    19. Self-starter with a track record in learning new technologies.

6. **Duration**

The contract for this position will initially be for one year with the possibility of extension based on performance satisfaction and budget availability.

7. **Language**

Fluency in English and Somali is required

8. **Reporting**

The adviser will directly report to the general director of the Somali Bureau of Standards.