**Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Technical Cooperation Programme (TCP) Project: *TCP/STK/3501 - Technical assistance to promote agricultural diversification towards the reduction of the importation/import bill of selected crops – onions, and cole crops***

**CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST – Farmer Field School Master Trainer**

**Background**

The ever-increasing prices for imported food, caused by rising energy prices and lower global production levels are a major food-security concern for St. Kitts and Nevis (classified as a Net-Food Importing Developing Country). The Government of St. Kitts and Nevis, in its Agriculture Development Strategy (2006-2011), introduced ‘Operation Food Security’ with the aim of expanding domestic production and encouraging higher consumption of local products. In addition, the Government sought the assistance of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) to support the promotion of agricultural diversification and value chain development of two key crops in order to increase their production and support import substitution. The project *TCP/STK/3501 - Technical assistance to promote agricultural diversification towards the reduction of the importation/import bill of selected crops – onions, and cole crops* has been formulated in response to this request. The project was approved in November 2014 and implementation is to begin shortly.

A **Farmer Field School (FFS) Master Trainer** is to be recruited to support the execution of two key components of the project

An Expression of Interest (EoI) is invited from suitable candidates. The EoI should include a covering letter, detailed *Curriculum Vitae* with names and contact information for at least two References and any other information that will assist with the evaluation process.

The EoI documentation should be sent via email to [ruth.elcock@fao.org](mailto:ruth.elcock@fao.org), copied to [kittitianposse@hotmail.com](mailto:kittitianposse@hotmail.com), on or before the deadline of **Friday 27 February 2015,** with the subject line ‘*Expression of Interest – FFS Master Trainer (TCP/STK/3501)*’

**Terms of Reference for FFS Master Trainer**

Under the overall supervision of the FAO Sub-Regional Coordinator for the Caribbean as the budget holder and the technical supervision of the SLC Crop Production and Protection Officer (Lead Technical Officer – LTO) and in close collaboration with the National Project Coordinator and other project consultants, the FFS Master Trainer will undertake the following activities in five missions:

*Mission 1 (Field activities – 10 days; desk work – 5 days) 15 days*

Prior to the Mission:

* Develop/adapt an appropriate survey instrument, in close collaboration with Extension Officers, project consultants and LTO, taking gender issues into consideration
* Participate in an electronic training event with the Marketing and the Socio-economic / Gender Specialists in order to ensure that these issues are specifically and appropriately addressed in the survey.

During the Mission:

* Carry out baseline surveys of Extension Officers and farmers participating in the FFS in the two target crops in order to identify gaps to be addressed in the Training of Trainers and the Field School activities, respectively
* Prepare a draft Report on the Baseline Situation in the two target crops
* Participate in two one-day Stakeholder Workshops to present the findings of the baseline surveys of (1) Extension Officers and (2) farmers
* Use feedback from the two Stakeholder Workshops to develop the curriculum for the three- week Training of Trainers (TOT) and the season-long FFS, respectively
* Develop an Implementation Plan for the TOT and FFS, taking gender issues into consideration
* Prepare and submit a Mission Report, including all the documentation (Report of the baseline surveys; Report of Stakeholder Workshops; draft Curriculum for the TOT and FFS)

*Mission 2 (Field work - Training of Trainers – 20 days; desk work – 5 days) Total 25 days*

Prior to the Mission:

* Prepare a draft FFS Manual, based on existing information/ experiences from other countries
* Provide relevant (FFS-related) inputs, if any, into the Marketing Strategy prepared by the Marketing Specialist

During the Mission:

* Carry out an intensive and hands-on 3-week-long Training of Trainers (TOT) to train the Extension Officers as FFS Facilitators
* Finalize detailed FFS curriculum and Implementation Plans (for cole crops and onions)
* Support the planning and conduct of the first FFS in cole crops and onions as part of the TOT
* Carry out any other activities necessary for the successful implementation of the FFS
* Prepare and submit Mission Report

*Mission 3 (Mid-season – FFS cole crops; Mission 4 days; desk work – 1 day) Total 5 days*

* Support the TOT participants in evaluating the FFS and make necessary adjustments to the Cole crop FFS Implementation Plan
* Participate in mid-term Open Field-Day activity
* Carry out any other activities as necessary
* Prepare and submit Mission Report

*Mission 4 (Mission 4 days; desk work – 1 day) Total 5 days*

* Participate in a one-day Workshop with the FFS facilitators to determine the next steps
* Participate in the one-day Final Evaluation Workshop and Closing Ceremony for the two FFSs
* Carry out a debriefing session with officials at the Ministry of Agriculture on the FFS
* Prepare and submit a Mission Report, including a review of the two FFSs recommendations on the way forward

**Qualifications:**

1. A first degree (BSc) in Agriculture or related sciences.
2. Post-graduate training in Agriculture (or related field) and / or Project Management
3. 6-8 years experience in agricultural development and / or project management
4. Experience as a Farmer Field School Master Trainer (national / regional) a must
5. Knowledge of gender in project management and /or practical experience in implementing gender mainstreaming on the field would be an asset
6. Fluency in English is essential

**Duration**:

50 days over a 10-12 month period including four (4) missions to St. Kitts and Nevis – 38 days field activities and 12 days desk work

**Duty Station:** Home base and St. Kitts and Nevis