**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 – NATIONAL CONSULTANT**

**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* was formulated in response to this request. The project was approved in November 2014 and implementation is to begin shortly.

A **National Consultant** is to be recruited to support the execution of the project in order to achieve the objective: assisting the Government of St. Kitts and Nevis in reducing the food import bill, creating rural employment opportunities and improving the national food and nutrition security.

The Expression of Interest (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 – National Consultant (TCP/STK/3501)*’

The full Terms of Reference are as follows:

**Terms of Reference for National Consultant**

The National Consultant will work under the general supervision of FAO Sub-Regional Coordinator (SRC) for the Caribbean, the technical supervision of the Plant Production and Protection Officer, and in close collaboration with the National Project Coordinator (Department of Agriculture St. Kitts and Nevis), in order to conduct the following duties and tasks during the life of the project:

* assist in fine-tuning the project implementation strategy and work plan;
* plan and organize all Workshops to be held under the project;
* working closely with the other project consultants, coordinate, guide, support and monitor field implementation of all outputs and activities as outlined in the project document;
* assist with securing resources from project and national sources to facilitate implementation of project activities;
* advise and assist FAO in the procurement and distribution of inputs needed for the demonstrations;
* provide technical advice to the project according to expertise and mandate within regular work implementation according to the mandate and priorities of his/her department;
* facilitate dialogue between Department of Agriculture and other stakeholder ministries and organisations, to discuss linkages and harmonize approaches for the increased production and marketing of the selected crops;
* in collaboration with the Farmer Field School Master Trainer and the Post-Harvest Specialist, coordinate the preparation and completion of the FFS and Post-Harvest (onion) Manuals
* prepare and submit the required reports as outlined in the proposal and specified by FAO;
* assist in the preparation of the terminal and other reports of the project; and
* conduct any other activities necessary for achieving the project’s goal and objectives.

**Qualifications and Experience:**

The National Consultant will be expected to have:

1. A first degree in Agriculture, Biological Sciences or a related field, with at least 10 years of professional experience.
2. Post-graduate training in Agriculture, Biological Sciences and / or Project Management.
3. 3-5 years of experience in project management / implementation.
4. Extensive knowledge of local crop production systems is required.
5. Knowledge of gender issues and gender mainstreaming in project implementation would be an asset.
6. Excellent command of written and spoken English.

**Duration**:

Part-time (approximately 50%) for the duration of the project

**Duty Station:**

St. Kitts, with in-country travel as required.