



Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

CALL FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST - VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT N°: IRC4894

Issued on: 18 October 2017

Deadline For Application: 1 November 2017

JOB TITLE: Agricultural Engineer (Sustainable Mechanization)

TYPE OF CONTRACT: Consultant

ORGANIZATIONAL UNIT: AGP/AGPML

DUTY STATION: Rome

DURATION: Up to 11 months on a WAE basis

AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION
DEPARTMENT

FAO seeks gender, geographical and linguistic diversity in its staff and international consultants in order to best serve FAO Members in all regions.

Qualified female applicants and qualified nationals of non-and under-represented member countries are encouraged to apply.

Persons with disabilities are equally encouraged to apply.

All applications will be treated with the strictest confidence.

Organizational Setting

The Plant Production and Protection Division (AGP) promotes sustainable crop production intensification. This requires the integration and harmonization of all appropriate crop production policies and practices in order to increase production in a sustainable manner in order to eradicate hunger while preserving the natural resources and environment for future use.

The post is located in the 'Rural and Urban Crop Systems Team', (AGPML) one of six teams in the Division. AGPML provides advice, technical support and guidance to countries aimed at sustainably increasing crop production as key contributions to food security, improved livelihoods and diversified diets in both rural and peri-urban contexts. The incumbent is part of a Team of technical experts on cropping systems (including horticulture crops, cereals, and perennial orchard and plantation crops) that work together to deliver a programme of work on sustainable crop production intensification through sustainable agricultural production and technologies addressed to small holder farmers

FAO International Consultants and call purpose

The Organization frequently engages experts to work on short-term projects as international consultants. The functions of a consultant are results-oriented and normally involve analysing complex issues, directing seminars or training courses, preparing documents for conferences and meetings, or writing reports on matters within their area of expertise.

An international consultant is engaged by the Organization to provide expertise, skills or knowledge for the performance of a specific task or piece of work, which would be short-term by nature. The assignment may involve full-time or part-time functions similar to those of staff members.

FAO consultants fall into three categories (1) C for the base level (2) B for the middle level and (A) for the high level. A Senior consultant (Categories A and B) is expected to deliver without close supervision while a junior consultant assists a senior consultant or an FAO Officer of a higher level.

The assignment can be from 1 month up to 11 months. The possibility of extension is subject to satisfactory performance and depending on the resources and needs of the Organization.

The purpose of this call is to attract talents with experience and background in the area of sustainable mechanization to populate the Plant Production and Protection Roster. Experts who are registered in the Roster are available for consideration whenever relevant opportunities arise.

Reporting Lines

The incumbent reports to the supervising Officer and the Team Leader (Rural and Urban Crop Systems Team), AGPML.

Technical Focus

Sustainable intensification and diversification of crop production in rural and urban smallholder/emerging farming systems including sustainable mechanization strategies and related enterprise development

Tasks and responsibilities

Senior Agricultural Engineer (Category B)

- Lead or provide technical support to the development of sustainable mechanization strategies and frameworks both at national and regional levels
- Promotion of sustainable mechanization related to sustainable crop intensification including conservation agriculture
- Develop guidelines and standards for sustainable agricultural mechanization within integrated crop production systems
- Liaise with research and development institutions, private sector organizations NGOs in linking the particular needs of small holders relevant to sustainable mechanization, related capacity building and training.
- Support the work on private – public partnerships in the context of sustainable mechanization systems
- Support technical clearance procedures with respect to procurement of agricultural sector-related machinery and equipment
- Contribute to programmes and projects on conservation agriculture including through support for enterprise development
- Assist in developing communication products
- Other duties as required

Junior Agricultural Engineer (Category C)

- Assist in the preparation of quality documents for international meetings, concept notes, and other relevant materials
- Support the work on private – public partnerships in the context of sustainable mechanization systems
- Conduct technical clearance reviews with respect to procurement of agricultural sector-related machinery and equipment
- Conduct literature reviews and develop databases on topics related to cropping systems sustainability and resilience (e.g. nutrient management, legume integration, enabling policies)
- Assist with facilitating and coordinating technical meetings.
- Assist in developing communication products
- Other duties as required.

CANDIDATES WILL BE ASSESSED AGAINST THE FOLLOWING

Minimum Requirements

- Advanced university degree in agricultural engineering agricultural machinery design, or a related field with academic or professional specialization in sustainable mechanization systems
- Experience (in sustainable mechanization in the context of sustainable agricultural production and in developing countries:
 - Senior Agricultural Engineer - At least 5 years of experience
 - Junior Agricultural Engineer – At least one year of experience
- Working knowledge of English, and limited knowledge of French, Spanish, Arabic, Chinese or Russian.

FAO Core Competencies

- Results Focus
- Teamwork
- Communication
- Building Effective Relationships
- Knowledge Sharing and Continuous Improvement

Technical/Functional Skills

- Extent and relevance of knowledge of sustainable mechanization
- Knowledge and extent of experience with integrated farming systems and sustainability in the context of smallholder production systems
- Extent and relevance of experience in developing and implementing programmes or projects on crop production intensification and diversification in , in the context of climate change adaptation and/or mitigation in both smallholder and mechanized systems
- Extent and relevance of experience of agriculture policy and/or mechanization strategy issues
- Ability to analyze sustainable crop production issues from a technical, economic, social and environmental perspective

Please note that all candidates should adhere to *FAO Values of Commitment to FAO, Respect for All and Integrity and Transparency*.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- All applications will be reviewed and qualified applicants will be contacted for interviews.
- FAO does not charge a fee at any stage of the recruitment process (application, interview meeting, processing).
- Incomplete applications will not be considered. If you need help, or have queries, please contact: iRecruitment@fao.org
- Applications received after the closing date will not be accepted.
- Only language proficiency certificates from UN accredited external providers and/or FAO language official examinations (LPE, ILE, LRT) will be accepted as proof of the level of knowledge of languages indicated in the online applications.
- For other issues, visit the FAO employment website: <http://www.fao.org/employment/home/en/>

HOW TO APPLY

To apply, visit the iRecruitment website at <http://www.fao.org/employment/irecruitment-access/en/> and complete your online profile. Only applications received through iRecruitment will be considered.

Candidates are requested to attach a letter of motivation to the online profile.

Vacancies will be removed from iRecruitment at 23:59 Central European Time (CET) on the deadline for applications date. We encourage applicants to submit the application well before the deadline date.

If you need help, or have queries, please contact: iRecruitment@fao.org

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