



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS
Terms of Reference for National Consultant /PSA

Minimum number of years of relevant experience required: 1 year ; 5 years ; 12+years

Job Title: Crop Monitoring and Yield Forecasting Expert	
Division/Department: FAO	
Programme/Project: “Reducing vulnerability and increasing adaptive capacity to respond to impacts of climate change and variability for sustainable livelihoods in agriculture sector in Nepal” (GCP/NEP/070/LDF)	
Location: Kathmandu, Nepal and need based travel to pilot districts and VDCs.	
Expected Start Date of Assignment: 01 January 2018	Duration: 7 months (WAE basis)
Reports to Name: Binod Saha	Title: Assistant FAOR (Programme)

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF TASK(S) AND OBJECTIVES TO BE ACHIEVED

The overall objective of Crop Monitoring and Yield Forecasting Expert is to strengthen capacity of Statistics Section of MOAD through targeted hands on training to staff and establish crop monitoring and crop yield forecasting facility within MOAD and ensure sustainable operation and maintenance of the facility and continuous production of crop assessment bulletins (Output 2.1.1).

Under the overall supervision of the FAOR and the technical supervision of the relevant technical units in FAO, in close collaboration with the Ministry of Agricultural Development (MOAD), the National Project Director (NPD), FAO technical backstopping officers, National Technical Coordination and other project staff, the national expert will perform the following tasks:

- Review the current climate and crop data collection practices of MOAD, NARC and DoA;
- Develop recommendations and concrete strategies to improve the climate and crop data collection practices to address climate data and capacity gaps;
- Develop training packages for the Statics Section of MOAD with crop monitoring and yield forecasting;
- Work with relevant units within MOAD, NARC and DoA to design a crop monitoring and yield forecasting facility within MOAD including support for procuring necessary computing systems, calibrating the data base and models and assessing and validating model outputs;
- Work with relevant units within MOAD, NARC and DoA to put in place institutional arrangements and systems to ensure sustainable operation and maintenance of facility for crop monitoring and yield forecasting;
- Provide training on improved tools and methods for assessment of crop yield for staff of the MOAD crop monitoring and yield forecasting facility at the national level and for relevant staff in at least 4 Gaupalikas.
- Participate in district/Gaupalika level training programmes and offer training to front line extension staff on data collection (climate impacts, damage to infrastructure, loss to production, etc.) according to the improved climate risk management related information and crop monitoring and yield forecasting;
- Provide any other duties which may be identified and agreed upon with the Lead Technical Officer (LTO);
- Submit a substantive technical report at the end of the assignment.

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS:

Expected Outputs:	Required Completion Date:
a) Detail work plan developed within one week of recruitment;	a) 28 February 2018
b) Report on crop monitoring and yield forecasting;	b) 31 March 2018
c) Report on the design of a crop monitoring and yield forecasting facility within MOAD including requirements for computing systems, calibrating the data base and crop yield forecasting models and assessing and validating model outputs;	c) 30 April 2018
d) Establishment of necessary computing systems and data base model calibrated, validated and assessed;	d) 30 June 2018
e) Training workshops reports report;	e) 30 September 2018
f) Substantive technical report within two weeks of the completion of the assignment.	f) 30 September 2018

Qualification: Masters degree in agro-meteorology, meteorology, agronomy or related subject with sufficient experience in crop data collection, crop monitoring and crop yield forecasting models.