



Issued on: 1 February 2016

Deadline For Application: 7 March 2016

POSITION TITLE:	<b>Agricultural Officer (Soil Health)</b>	GRADE LEVEL:	<b>P-4</b>
		DUTY STATION:	<b>Rome, Italy</b>
ORGANIZATIONAL UNIT:	<b>ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT TEAM (AGPME)</b>	DURATION *:	<b>C</b>
	<b>Plant Production and Protection Division, AGP</b>	POST NUMBER:	<b>0416096</b>
	<b>Agriculture and Consumer Protection Department</b>	CCOG CODE:	<b>1H01</b>

\* The length of appointment for internal FAO candidates will be established in accordance with applicable policies pertaining to the extension of appointments

**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.**

**The incumbent may be re-assigned to different activities and/or duty stations depending on the evolving needs of the Organization.**

### Organizational Setting

The Plant Production and Protection Division (AGP) promotes the sustainable intensification of crop production (SCPI). 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 Ecosystem Management Team (AGPME) one of six teams in the Division. AGPME provides advice, technical support and guidance to countries aimed at maintaining and enhancing ecosystem services as essential components of sustainable farming systems. The incumbent is part of a Team of technical specialists that includes expertise on, cropping systems, plant nutrition, pest and soil management and various aspects of agro-biodiversity and agro-ecology to deliver a programme of work on SCPI that emphasizes sustainable agricultural production and technologies addressed to small holder farmers.

### Reporting Lines

Agricultural Officer (Soil Health) reports to the Leader of the Ecosystem Management Team (AGPME)

### Key Results

Technical and policy expertise to support the planning, development and implementation of Departmental programmes, projects, products and services in accordance with (Departmental and) FAO Strategic Objectives.

### Key Functions

- Plans and leads components of multi-disciplinary teams, leads and/or participates on Organization-wide, cross-Departmental committees, project teams, and working groups and/or provides specialized expertise on technical networks and/or international technical policy and/or international technical policy and standard setting bodies.
- Develops technical, analysis, assessment, monitoring and/or reporting frameworks, and related methodologies, tools, systems and databases etc. to support the planning, implementation/delivery and monitoring of programmes of work, projects, products and/or services.
- Designs and conducts research, data collection, validation, analysis and/or reporting activities to support the development of technical standards, international instruments, innovative cross-sector approaches, new tools, technologies, technical reports/publications, and/or policy proposals as well as the provision of technical/policy/ specialist/advice and expertise.
- Responds to Member Country requests for technical and/or policy assistance, provides technical advice, assistance and solutions to Decentralized Offices and provides technical backstopping to field projects.
- Collaborates in, provides technical backstopping to and ensures the quality / effectiveness of capacity development and knowledge sharing activities within member countries such as policy support, organizational development and individual learning events including preparation of related information, learning materials, on-line tools.
- Promotes international cooperation/advocates best practices, increased policy dialogue and provides technical expertise at international/intergovernmental meetings.
- Participates in resource mobilization activities in accordance with the FAO Corporate strategy.

### Specific Functions

- Supports the development, implementation and monitoring of programmes and projects on soil health and ecosystem management in the context of the sustainable intensification of crop production.
- Provides technical and policy related advice on sustainable soil management especially in smallholder farming systems.
- Designs and conducts research, collects and analyses data on the linkages between soil fertility, soil health and soil ecology and their contribution to sustainable production systems.
- Contributes to increased policy dialogue and advocates best practices related to soil health and soil ecology through the Global Soil Partnership and other initiatives e.g. Aichi targets and the Bonn Challenge.
- Lead, contribute to and/or provide technical support in the implementation of FAO's strategic framework, especially the division's work relating to sustainable agriculture and food systems, in the context of the emerging realities of the climate change.

## CANDIDATES WILL BE ASSESSED AGAINST THE FOLLOWING

### Minimum Requirements

- Advanced university degree in agriculture/agronomy or related biological science with emphasis on soil management, soil health or ecology
- Seven years of relevant experience in the field of soil management/ecology in the context of sustainable farming systems including in developing countries
- Working knowledge of English, French or Spanish and limited knowledge of one of the other two or Arabic, Chinese, Russian

### Competencies

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

### Technical/Functional Skills

- Work experience in more than one location or area of work, particularly in field positions is desirable
- Extent and relevance of knowledge and experience in soil management and soil ecology in the context of sustainable crop production
- Extent and relevance of experience in developing and delivering programmes of work or projects related to sustainable soil management in smallholder farming systems
- Demonstrated ability to analyze information as the basis for technical and policy advice for governments and input to international and intergovernmental meetings
- Extent and relevance of knowledge of the linkages between soil fertility, soil health and soil ecology and their contribution to sustainable production systems

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

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### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- All candidates should possess computer/word processing skills.
- Evaluation of qualified candidates may include an assessment exercise which will be followed by a competency-based interview.
- Your application will be screened based on the information provided in your iRecruitment online profile (see “*How to Apply*”). We strongly recommend that you ensure that the information is accurate and complete including employment record, academic qualifications and language skills.
- Please note that FAO will only consider academic credentials or degrees obtained from an educational institution recognised in the IAU/UNESCO list.
- Other similar positions at the same level may be filled from this vacancy notice and the endorsed candidates will be considered for the Employment Roster for a period of 2 years.
- Candidates may be requested to provide performance assessments.

### REMUNERATION

A competitive compensation and benefits package is offered. For information on UN salaries, allowances and benefits, click on the following link: [http://www.un.org/Depts/OHRM/salaries\\_allowances/salary.htm](http://www.un.org/Depts/OHRM/salaries_allowances/salary.htm)

### 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](mailto:iRecruitment@fao.org)

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