



Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Office of Evaluation

Call for Expressions of Interest – Team members:

Evaluation of FAO's Country Programme in the Kyrgyz Republic

Background: FAO's been working in the Kyrgyz Republic for over twenty years. In the period 2010-2014, it implemented 50 projects for a total budget of about USD 17 million. Building institutional capacity of government counterparts, providing policy advice and supporting sectoral programmes have been regular thrusts of FAO interventions, especially since the establishment of a fully-fledged Country Office in 2013.

Purpose: This evaluation will assess the strategic positioning and contributions made by FAO to national food and agricultural development and capacities, with the view of making suggestions to improve FAO's assistance to the country.

Scope: The evaluation will cover FAO's cooperation with the Kyrgyz Republic over the period 2010-2014, and will be conducted in close association with national government counterparts and other national stakeholders. It will concentrate on assessing the results of FAO's work in sectors prioritized in the Country programming framework with the Kyrgyz Republic. It will, in so far as possible, make use of local human resources and expertise, and include in-depth impact studies.

Timeframe: The tentative timeline is as follows:

- (a) Preparatory desk research in April-May 2015;
- (b) An inception mission by OED staff in late May 2015 to Bishkek, Ankara (FAO Sub-regional office for Central Asia) and Budapest (FAO Regional office for Europe and Central Asia) to engage with key national counterparts, to scope the national research and evaluation capacity, to discuss the evaluation design and activity plans with the programme managers, and to establish the Terms of Reference of the evaluation;
- (c) Field research in July-August 2015, based on the design and plan established in the inception mission (duration of the missions to be decided);
- (d) Report writing and/or complementary data collection in September-October 2015; and,
- (e) National stakeholder workshop in November 2015 involving the national government counterparts, development partners, implementing partners, other national and regional stakeholders, and FAO stakeholders, with a view to promoting ownership of evaluation outcome and its maximum use.

Composition of the evaluation team

The Evaluation will be conducted by a multidisciplinary team led by an OED evaluation officer and supported by an associate evaluation manager. OED is presently seeking 4-5 senior experts in one or more of the following sectors to undertake sectoral assessments and provide support to in-depth impact studies:

- Agricultural and food security policy.
- Agricultural and livestock production.
- Fisheries and aquaculture development.
- Forestry, climate change and disaster risk management.
- Rural development.

The team will work under the overall supervision of the OED evaluation officer responsible for the country evaluation. The individual contracts will comprise between 30-50 days. Honorarium will be set at standard FAO consultancy rates.

Team members should not have been involved in the design or implementation of FAO interventions in the Kyrgyz Republic during the period under scrutiny, and will be required to sign a conflict of interest declaration.

Professional qualifications

- Advanced degree in social or natural sciences and/or expertise in sectors relevant to the evaluation as listed above.
- At least seven years of relevant sectoral experience.
- In-depth knowledge of the country and/or the Central Asia sub-region.
- Proficiency in English.
- Experience in evaluation and/or field research will be an asset.
- Knowledge of Russian and/or local languages is preferred.

Application process

Interested candidates should send a cover letter and their Personal Profile Form (PPF¹) outlining their competencies for undertaking this task to the email address Nargiza.Mazhidova@fao.org **no later than 31 May 2015**. Please specify "Evaluation of FAO's Country Programme in the Kyrgyz Republic" in the email subject line.

National candidates from professional associations, universities or research centres are strongly encouraged to apply.

¹ In order to prepare a PPF, you must first register on the FAO iRecruitment site by clicking on the following link: <http://www.fao.org/employment/irecruitment-access/en/> Please ensure that the information in the PPF is accurate and complete including employment record, academic qualifications and language skills.