CALL FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Team Leader and member for the Final Evaluation of the project “Sudan Food Security Policy and Strategy Capacity Building Programme” (FSPS)

Contract duration: 35-40 days between July 15 and October 15 2016
Duty station: home-based with missions to FAO HQ (Rome) and Sudan

Vacancy No. IRC3355
Deadline for Applications: 31 May 2016

Expressions of Interest for the Evaluation

The FAO Office of Evaluation (OED) is seeking Expressions of Interest (EOIs) from qualified individuals to conduct the independent final evaluation of the “Sudan Food Security Policy and Strategy Capacity Building Programme” (FSPS). The candidates should not have been involved in the design or implementation of the FAO activities being assessed by the evaluation and will be required to sign a conflict of interest declaration.

Tasks and responsibilities

The Team Leader and Team Member will contribute to the evaluation in her/his area of specialization. Her/his mandate will be derived from and should comply with the overall Terms of Reference for the Evaluation.

The evaluation will be managed by the FAO Office of Evaluation, OED. The Evaluation Team is responsible for conducting the evaluation and developing the methodology in consultation with OED. The team will participate in briefing and debriefing, discussions, field visits, and will draft the final evaluation report.

OED is responsible for ensuring conformity with standards for project/programme evaluation in FAO. Evaluation and Individual ToR, will be provided to those shortlisted for the assignment.

Candidates should meet the following requirements

Desired team members profile
The Evaluation Team will be comprised of one international and one regional or national expert, with an appropriate balance of relevant technical expertise and experience in evaluation. The team will have expertise in:

- Food Security policy/strategy development and food security information systems;
- Evaluating capacity development interventions;
- Institutional /Governance related issues;
- Gender and social inclusion issues and approaches;
- Project/programme management;
Minimum Requirements

- Solid Expertise in three or more subject matters and areas as highlighted above;
- Evaluation experience of large and complex programmes;
- Strong analytical and research skills (document review, ability to synthesize solid evaluative findings out of raw evidence);
- Excellent writing and communication skills in English

Desirable Requirements

- Demonstrated experience of working in Sudan and/or of conducting evaluations in the country;
- Postgraduate degree in relevant disciplines
- At least 8 years of professional experience in the areas of evaluation, food security and institutional capacity building
- Fluency in Arabic;
- Knowledge of FAO.

Additional Information on selection criteria

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

All candidates should adhere to FAO values of Commitment to FAO, Respect for All and Integrity and Transparency.

Additional information on the Evaluation

Project Background

The Food Security Policy and Strategy Capacity Development Programme (FSPS) is a three-year programme that officially began on 6th November 2012. It is funded by the European Union (EU) and is being implemented by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in collaboration with the Government of the Republic of the Sudan. The FSPS was designed to support the target state governments in addressing the capacity gaps related to: (a) a food security inter-sectoral institutional coordination framework, a food security policy and information system; and (b) the line ministries’ policy planning, budgeting, monitoring and implementation capacity.

The expected Impact of the programme is the long-term improvement of food security in targeted states of Sudan with the intended outcome of making “Food Security decisions more inclusive, better integrated, informed, implemented and monitored”. The Impact and outcome are to be achieved primarily by strengthening governments’ capacities to prioritize and formulate food security policies and strategies based on well researched evidence and through inclusive and consultative mechanisms in which lower-level governance structures and major non-state actors become part of the prioritizing and decision making processes.

Implementation of Programme activities specifically addressed the following outputs:

- Effective cross-sectorial Food Security institutional framework established and linked to the National institutional framework;
- Capacity to review, plan, budget and monitor Food Security (FS) policies and strategies developed, resulting in more effective public action for food security and nutrition;
- Functional Regional level Food Security information systems strengthened and supports decision making;
- Food Security oriented Non-State Actors’ capacity strengthened;
- Key food insecurity drivers are better understood and linked to decision making.

A key aspect of the programme includes supporting establishments of appropriate food security institutional set ups and expanding the scope of food security information and policy implementation at
State level in order to make the national level information more representative while availing information for target States to make their own decisions. In order to address the problem of limited or poor linkages between the states and federal level decision making processes and increased transparency, the programme has given placed greater emphasis on strengthening communication and coordination mechanisms.

A Mid-Term evaluation (MTE) conducted in 2014 recommended that the programme look to strengthen vertical (federal, state and locality) and horizontal (across states) linkages as well as to further integrate the capacity building needs of non-state actors (NSAs). In 2015, the project was extended for a year and a no-cost extension was granted through November 2016.

Evaluation purpose and scope

This evaluation is the final evaluation of the “Sudan Food Security Policy and Strategy Capacity Building Programme” project. As a Mid-term evaluation was conducted in 2014, which covered activity/output level achievements, the scope of the final evaluation will focus on the project’s contribution to Outcome level results, the sustainability of these results and the overall expected and unexpected impacts of the project with due consideration to follow-up actions taken after the Mid-term evaluation.

The evaluation will also be forward-looking, helping to identify any areas for future improvement and identifying good practice where demonstrated success in providing assistance for strengthening the use of information in Food Security decision making might potentially be replicated.

The Final Evaluation will assess the full implementation period of the project from 2013 up to the start of the evaluation process. To the extent possible, the evaluation will examine the project achievements at federal, state and locality level based on evidence from the field.

Duration of the evaluation process

The assignment will last indicatively 35-40 days to be worked between July 15 and October 15 2016. The Team Leader and Member will work from home and be expected to undertake travel as part of this assignment.

How to apply

All applications are to be made through FAO’s iRecruitment system. Click on the link below to access iRecruitment, complete your online profile and apply for this Call for Expression of Interest.


In order for your application to be properly evaluated, please ensure that all sections of your iRecruitment account are completed. Incomplete applications will not be evaluated.

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