



**Food and Agriculture Organization  
of the United Nations**

## **CALL FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST**

**Job Title: Thematic Expert (Public Policy) for the Evaluation of the CFS Reform**

Contract duration: 60 days (between July 2016 and January 2017, starting as soon as possible)

Vacancy No. 3448

Deadline for Applications: 18 July 2016

Duty station: Home-based

### **Background**

1. The Committee on World Food Security (CFS) was set up in 1974 as an intergovernmental body to serve as a forum for review and follow up of food security policies. In 2009, CFS went through an extensive reform process to enable it to more fully play its role in the area of food security and nutrition.<sup>1</sup> The CFS Reform envisioned that *"CFS constitutes the foremost inclusive international and intergovernmental platform for a broad range of stakeholders to work together in a coordinated manner towards the elimination of hunger and ensuring food security and nutrition for all human beings. The CFS will strive for a world free from hunger where countries implement the voluntary guidelines for the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security"*.

2. In 2013, CFS underlined the need to use monitoring and evaluation to improve its work, and agreed to conduct periodic assessments of CFS effectiveness in improving policy frameworks, especially at country level, and in promoting participation of and coherence among stakeholders on food security and nutrition. Specifically, CFS recommended carrying out a baseline survey to assess the current situation as the base of assessing progress. Further, CFS included in its Multi Year Programme of Work for 2014-15, an *"evaluation to assess the effectiveness of the CFS reform from 2009, including progress made towards the overall objective of the Committee and its three outcomes."* The CFS Bureau, the executive arm of CFS comprising 12 member countries, is commissioning this evaluation to an independent Evaluation Team.

3. The evaluation is intended to serve two primary and complementary purposes, namely:

- a) To generate evidence from the global, regional and national levels that would lead to recommendations to help improve CFS effectiveness, and;
- b) To assess the extent to which CFS promotes/influences improved policy frameworks on food security and nutrition issues, at global, regional and national levels.

In addition, the evaluation is expected to generate learning for the UN system, where different entities and actors are exploring ways to develop a multi-stakeholder approach, to which CFS represents a possible model.

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<sup>1</sup> Information on CFS and the reform process can be accessed at [www.fao.org/cfs/cfs-home/](http://www.fao.org/cfs/cfs-home/)

4. The evaluation is to be comprehensive, external, independent and professional. It will assess the overall relevance, efficiency and effectiveness of CFS. The review will cover all CFS Bodies (including the CFS Plenary, the Bureau, the Advisory Group, the High Level Panel of Experts (HLPE) and HLPE Secretariat and Joint CFS Secretariat and their roles as defined in the CFS Reform Document, and other ad bodies such as the Open Ended Working Groups, to assess whether they are effectively contributing to the realization of the desired vision of the Committee.

### **Appointment**

5. The CFS Bureau wishes to recruit an experienced professional with substantive technical expertise, knowledge and work experience in public policy development preferably at international level. The Thematic Expert is required to bring an understanding of public policy development processes, including mechanisms for policy dialogue and consultation with stakeholders from civil society and the private sector. The Thematic expert is expected to work closely with the Evaluation Team during the evaluation, particularly during the data collection and analysis, and the preparation of written analyses that will serve as input to the drafting of the evaluation report.

6. While recruited and administered by the CFS secretariat, the Thematic Expert will remain independent from the secretariat in carrying out his/her duties. The appointment is for the duration July 2016 to January 2017.

### **Tasks and responsibilities:**

7. The Thematic Expert (Public Policy) will have the following responsibilities:

- a) Review reference material provided by the CFS and other stakeholders (e.g. reports on proceedings of CFS, policy products of the CFS, research reports including but not limited to reports of the High Level Panel of Experts and Open Ended Working Groups). Prepare analytical issues paper based on the analysis of the reference material.
- b) Contribute to the development of data collection instruments.
- c) Conduct field-based data collection activities in accordance with the evaluation design and methodology. This will include interviews at headquarters (Rome) as well as telephone/Skype interviews, surveys, and site visits to a sample of countries.
- d) As a member of the Evaluation Team, participate in team discussions and joint analysis sessions. Provide analytical paper(s) on the areas allocated, to serve as input to the evaluation report.
- e) Provide any additional data, information, clarification to the analysis as may be requested by the Evaluation Manager and Evaluation Team Leader.

Deliverables	Tentative Deadline
Analytical issues paper based on document review	July 2016
Analytical paper(s) for Evaluation Report based on data collection	September 2016
Revisions to draft Evaluation Report	December 2016

## **Candidates should meet the following requirements:**

### **Education:**

- Advanced University degree in a relevant area, for example, public administration, economics, social sciences or related field.

### **Experience:**

- Seven years or more of relevant first-hand experience both in field and Headquarters contexts.
- Experience conducting complex programmatic and organizational evaluations.

### **Technical skills & knowledge:**

- In-depth knowledge and understanding of public policy development processes in intergovernmental settings, at international, and/or regional levels
- Good understanding of international civil society bodies and their role in public policy and/or good understanding of international private sector associations and their role in public policy
- Good knowledge of current evaluation principles, standards and methods.

### **Competencies:**

- Ability to assimilate and analyze complex issues using independent judgement, and to guide others in their analysis.
- Ability to think strategically and apply a high level of analytical skill.
- Written and oral proficiency in English and preferably some knowledge of other UN official languages.
- Ability to work in a multi-cultural and multidisciplinary team environment.

## **Additional Information**

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.

## **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.

<http://www.fao.org/employment/irecruitment-access/en/>

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](mailto:iRecruitment@fao.org)