



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

CALL FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Team Leader/Team Members for the Evaluation of the “Global Forum for Agricultural Research (GFAR)”

Contract duration team leader: 50-60 days between end of August 2016 and February 2017
Contract duration team member/s: 30-40 days between end of August 2016 and February 2017

Duty station: home-based with missions to FAO HQ (Rome) and selected sample of countries

Vacancy No. IRC3485

Deadline for Applications: 12 August 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 evaluation of the “Global Forum for Agricultural Research (GFAR)”. The candidates should not have been involved in the design or implementation of FAO activities being assessed by the evaluation and will be required to sign a conflict of interest declaration.

Tasks and responsibilities

The Team Leader/Team Member will contribute to the evaluation for his/her area of specialization. His/her mandate will derived from and must fully comply with the overall Terms of Reference for the Evaluation.

The team leader will support the management of the evaluation in coordination with the FAO Office of Evaluation, OED. The Evaluation Team Leader/Member is responsible for conducting the evaluation and applying the methodology. The team will participate in briefing and debriefing, discussions, field visits, and will contribute to the evaluation with written inputs.

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 2 to 3 international, regional experts with an appropriate balance of evaluation experience and expertise in two or more of the following areas:

- a) Agricultural research and innovation;
- b) Capacity development;
- c) Advocacy;
- d) Governance;
- e) Knowledge capitalization, management and sharing;
- f) Coordination mechanisms
- g) Evaluation management;

Minimum Requirements

- Solid Expertise in two or more subject matters and areas as highlighted above;
- Solid Evaluation experience of large and complex fora and partnership programmes;
- Fluency in English, both written and spoken;
- Excellent writing skills.

Desirable Requirements

- Postgraduate degree in relevant disciplines (stated above)
- At least 10 years of professional experience in the areas of evaluation and fisheries
- Previous experience with coordination of and cross-linkages between programmes and policies at regional and national level;
- Previous working experience with at least one of the GFAR's partners¹ e.g. IFAD, CGIAR, Regional Fora of Public Agricultural Research for Development and World Farmers' Organisation (WFO);
- Fluency in French or Spanish, written and spoken;
- 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 Global Forum on Agricultural Research (GFAR) was formally established in October 1996 with the mandate to promote cost-effective partnerships and strategic alliances amongst stakeholders involved in agricultural research. It was designed to provide a forum where these stakeholders could work together and find solutions to the persistent problems of food insecurity, poverty, degradation and loss of natural resources. Since July 1998, when it became operational, to date GFAR benefited from a budget that, acquired overtime, amounts to \$32.7 million.

The stakeholders of agricultural research for development, a group of donors supporting the initiative and four facilitating agencies (FAO, IFAD, ISNAR and the World Bank), sponsored the formation of GFAR. The Global Forum is meant to be a convening and catalytic mechanism for change, a virtual institution composed and driven by the actual 136 Partners who make up the Forum: networks, fora and institutions from all stakeholder sectors involved in agricultural research, extension, education and enterprise, from farmers and consumers to researchers, to multilateral organizations and from NGOs to the private sector.

In recent years, GFAR has broadened its initial focus to include all aspects of the agri-food research and innovation system and the generation, access/sharing, transformation, application and use of knowledge, skills and technologies required within this frame. More specifically, the main objectives of the Global Forum are:

- To build consensus and strengthen advocacy for action on agricultural research and innovation priorities;
- To promote global and regional partnerships for collaborative research and innovation;
- To boost knowledge and improve communication of agricultural research and innovation;
- To strengthen the institutional capacities of GFAR and its stakeholders.

Evaluation purpose

The GFAR evaluation will be a forward looking evaluation aimed at identifying good practices as well as challenges and opportunities for improving and/or upscaling the GFAR's work, with a special focus on

¹ Please visit this webpage for a complete list of the GFAR's partners: <http://www.gfar.net/about-us/gfar-constituencies>

the relevance and effectiveness of its last reform. The evaluation findings and recommendations will help advise the GFAR, its governing bodies as well as all the partners, stakeholders and donors involved, on future action and management.

Duration of the evaluation process

The assignment will last indicatively 50-60 days for the team leader and 30-40 days for the team members to be worked between end of August 2016 and February 2017. The Team Leader/Members will work from home and be expected to undertake travel as part of this assignment, beginning with an inception mission to be held at FAO Headquarters (Rome) in September 2016. Further missions in a sample of countries will be conducted between September and October 2016.

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