



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

## **CALL FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST**

### **Team Leader and member for the Final Evaluation of the project “Capacity Development of the Irrigation Department of the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock of Afghanistan”**

Contract duration: 35-40 days between March and June 2017

Duty station: home-based with missions to FAO HQ (Rome) and Afghanistan

Vacancy No IRC3927

Deadline for Applications: 9 March 2017

#### **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 “Capacity Development of the Irrigation Department of the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock of Afghanistan”. 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:

- ✓ Evaluation of capacity development interventions;
- ✓ Project/programme management;
- ✓ Regional/national experience;
- ✓ Institutional/governance related issues;
- ✓ Irrigation systems and national water resources management;

- ✓ Gender and social inclusion issues and approaches and;
- ✓ Qualitative and quantitative analysis skills in assessing empowerment and capacity development.

#### Minimum Requirements

- Solid Expertise in three or more subject matters and areas as highlighted above;
- Evaluation experience of capacity development and/or water management/irrigation systems 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 Afghanistan 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
- 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 Capacity Development of Irrigation Department (ID) of the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (MAIL) of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, GCP/AFG/078/JICA, is a four-year project reaching its NTE in May 2017. It is funded by the Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA) (5.2 million USD) and implemented by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in collaboration with the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan. This project falls under the umbrella of the larger JICA's programme in Afghanistan "Capacity Development and Institutional Strengthening (CDIS)". JICA's stated purpose for its CDIS Project is the "Agricultural support service delivery to farmers is improved in the target areas".

The AFG/078/JICA project is meant to contribute to CDIS's output 2, "The capacity of the Irrigation Directorate (ID) of MAIL is improved in formulating irrigated agricultural development projects and in their implementation". The project was designed to support and strengthen the ID in developing the required technical and administrative capacity to manage the irrigation sector as per its mandate. In particular, the project aims at addressing the capacity gaps related to: (a) irrigation systems management; and (b) national water resources management.

The project has been structured around 8 main activities areas as illustrated below. Overall, capacity development activities have been implemented within the framework of On-the-Job-Training (OJT) Programmes, which represent an important project component (point 4). In the project design this component is meant also to inform the formulation of technical manuals (point 7) and the Road Map and capacity development plan for the ID (point 2).

- ✓ Institutional analysis and capacity assessment of the Irrigation Directorate;

- ✓ Road Map for institutional strengthening and capacity development plan for the ID;
- ✓ Political and technical consultation regarding policies and upper level plans of the ID;
- ✓ Implementation of pilot projects, aiming to train staff of the ID in formulating, managing, monitoring and evaluation (M&E) of irrigated agriculture development projects through on the job training with conducting rehabilitation of existing irrigation facilities and extension of on farm water management (OFWM) technologies;
- ✓ Trainings in Japan and/or in third countries to complement the OJT;
- ✓ Formulate a strategy to establish a database regarding irrigated agriculture based on experience of the OJT and relevant training programmes;
- ✓ Formulation and sharing of technical manuals on irrigated agriculture for the ID staff and farmers based on lessons learnt through the OJT and relevant training programme.
- ✓ Training to newly recruited staff of the ID, MAIL's provincial departments (DAILs) and farmers in the targeted areas.

### **Evaluation purpose and scope**

This Final Evaluation (FE) serves a twin purpose of accountability and learning. It will describe the value of program achievements relevant to target beneficiaries, as well as to their costs, and also document important lessons for potential scaling, replication or follow-on projects that may use similar approaches, target beneficiaries tools and program design elements.

The FE will assess the full implementation period of the project i.e. December 2013 up to date. To the extent possible, the evaluation will examine the project achievements at both ministerial and local level based on evidence from the field. It will focus, in particular, on the soundness of the capacity development intervention framework, results achieved and their replicability as well as on identifying lessons learnt.

### **Duration of the evaluation process**

The assignment will last indicatively 35-40 days to be worked between March and June 2017. 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.

<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)