



Issued on: 15 September 2017

Deadline For Application: 29 September 2017

JOB TITLE: Economist

TYPE OF CONTRACT: Consultant or PSA

DUTY STATION: Rome, Italy

ORGANIZATIONAL UNIT: TRADE AND MARKETS DIVISION (EST)

DURATION: Up to 11 months (with possible extension)

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

Qualified female applicants and qualified nationals of non-and under-represented member countries are encouraged to apply.

Persons with disabilities are equally encouraged to apply.

All applications will be treated with the strictest confidence.

Organizational Setting

The Trade and Markets Division (EST) monitors and analyses trends in international, regional and national agricultural commodity markets, collecting, analysing and disseminating comprehensive market and policy information concerning the major traded agricultural commodities. The Division also analyses global issues that affect agricultural trade, including policy analysis of trade measures and agreements, and provides technical support and capacity building to member countries in all these areas.

EST undertakes forward looking studies and is responsible for the publication of The State of Agricultural Commodity Markets (SOCO), an FAO flagship publication released biennially. Through its Global Information and Early Warning System (GIEWS), the Division is also responsible for FAO's early warnings and alerts on food shortfalls. The Division houses the secretariats of the Committee on Commodity Problems (CCP), nine Intergovernmental Commodity Groups (IGGs) and the Agricultural Market Information System (AMIS). Given the global and strategic nature of its work, EST also represents FAO in international fora and meetings.

Reporting Lines

The Consultant reports to the Team Leader, Commodity Markets and Development Team, under the overall guidance of the Division Director.

Technical Focus

The Consultant will work as part of a closely collaborating team to conduct research and analyse emerging issues and their impacts on global and domestic agricultural markets and food security. S/he will draw from this analysis and broader FAO knowledge and expertise to produce policy reports on a variety of themes related to food and agriculture. These reports, which aim at facilitating the understanding of, and dialogue on, the impacts of emerging issues and policy decisions by governments, should be appropriately tailored to global policy makers and other interested stakeholders.

Tasks and responsibilities

(i) Economic analysis, trade, and technical research

- Collect, manage and analyse data from multiple global datasets, such as FAOSTAT, World Development Indicators (WDI), International Financial Statistics (IFS) and household survey data sets to be used to inform and guide the team's technical and policy work.
- Work together with, and support the Team Leader in, the review of technical background papers and the provision of data inputs in line with the team's technical and policy work.
- Specify, estimate and validate econometric models that provide a statistical representation of the underlying economic relationships between prices, shocks, income and other variables and food security, trade, and markets applying appropriate econometric and modelling techniques in line with the recent literature and data.
- Explore the underlying economic and social relationships between variables (such as migration, poverty, or others depending on research topic) and agriculture and food security, and produce a framework that reflects this relationship addressing both direct and indirect relationships and channels.
- Perform other related duties as required.

(ii) Global governance and policy making

- Drawing from the technical research undertaken (as described above), contribute with the provision of substantive technical inputs to FAO research and publications, subsequently drafting publication sections/chapters, in particular for the production of FAO's publication The State of Agricultural Commodity Markets (SOCO) and the production of policy reports requested by FAO Members.
- Assist in the engagement of FAO in multilateral processes ran by informal country groups, supporting the Organization's engagement in activities related to agriculture, food security and nutrition. These may include (i) research and drafting of documents and reports; (ii) liaising with other International Organizations, in particular the UN Rome-based Agencies (RBAs), the UN at large, the OECD and WTO; and (iii) identifying emerging global issues that need to be addressed collectively and bringing them to the attention of policy makers.
- Establish and manage relations with relevant institutions, networks and platforms that could help FAO leverage its messages and advance global dialogue on various issues related to agricultural commodity markets and trade and help the Organization promote enhanced global food security and nutrition.

- Prepare and organize consultations and technical meetings in Rome, and participate in meetings as appropriate and when needed.
 - Perform other related duties as required.
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CANDIDATES WILL BE ASSESSED AGAINST THE FOLLOWING

Minimum Requirements

- For PSA: University degree in economics, agricultural economics or a closely related field.
For Consultants: Advanced degree in economics, agricultural economics, environmental studies or related field.
- 1-5 years of relevant experience in the sector of food and agriculture comprising, if possible, both technical research, writing of policy reports and support to multilateral processes.
- Working knowledge of English, French or Spanish and limited knowledge of one of the other two or Arabic, Chinese, Russian.

FAO Core Competencies

- Results Focus
- Teamwork
- Communication
- Building Effective Relationships
- Knowledge Sharing and Continuous Improvement

Please note that all candidates should adhere to *FAO Values of Commitment to FAO, Respect for All and Integrity and Transparency*.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- All applications will be reviewed and qualified applicants will be contacted for interviews.
- FAO does not charge a fee at any stage of the recruitment process (application, interview meeting, processing).
- Incomplete applications will not be considered. If you need help, or have queries, please contact: iRecruitment@fao.org
- Applications received after the closing date will not be accepted.
- Only language proficiency certificates from UN accredited external providers and/or FAO language official examinations (LPE, ILE, LRT) will be accepted as proof of the level of knowledge of languages indicated in the online applications.
- For other issues, visit the FAO employment website: <http://www.fao.org/employment/home/en/>

HOW TO APPLY

To apply, visit the iRecruitment website at <http://www.fao.org/employment/irecruitment-access/en/> and complete your online profile. Only applications received through iRecruitment will be considered.

Candidates are requested to attach a letter of motivation to the online profile.

Vacancies will be removed from iRecruitment at 23:59 Central European Time (CET) on the deadline for applications date. We encourage applicants to submit the application well before the deadline date.

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

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