



Issued on: 15 September 2017

Deadline For Application: 29 September 2017

JOB TITLE: Economist (agricultural policy analyst)

TYPE OF CONTRACT: Consultant

DUTY STATION: Rome, Italy

ORGANIZATIONAL UNIT: AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT ECONOMICS DIVISION,
ESA
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

DURATION: 11 months (renewable)

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 Agricultural Development Economics Division (ESA) conducts economic research and policy analysis related to all five of the Organization's strategic objectives (food security, sustainable agriculture, poverty reduction, inclusive food systems and resilient livelihoods). ESA provides evidence-based analytical support to national, regional and global policy processes and initiatives related to food security and sustainable agriculture.

The Monitoring and Analysing Food and Agricultural Policies (MAFAP) programme in ESA seeks to establish country-owned and sustainable systems to monitor, analyse, and reform food and agricultural policies to enable more effective, efficient and inclusive policy frameworks for agricultural transformation in sixteen countries in Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia. More information on the MAFAP programme is available at <http://www.fao.org/in-action/mafap>.

Reporting Lines

Under the overall supervisor of the MAFAP manager, and the direct supervision of the economist in charge of policy analysis methods, the consultant will be asked to contribute to the delivery of outputs and products as described in the MAFAP program result framework.

Technical Focus

The Economist will support economic and policy analysis of a range technical issues in developing countries participating in the MAFAP Program. She/he will be familiar with analytical tools used for analysing the extent of policy support to the agricultural sector such as public expenditure and price incentive analysis and able to use quantitative methods to assess the effects of specific policy measures. She/he will work in close coordination with the other members of the MAFAP team. Other specific aspects are:

- Experience of applied economics in the context of food, agricultural, trade, market, and price policy;
- Experience in assembling and analyzing public expenditure data to produce reviews and reports to governments;
- Experience in analyzing commodity price incentives at various level of a value chain including knowledge of the nominal rate of protection, nominal rate of assistance or other indicators used to assess the incidence of policy measures;
- Broad knowledge of current political economic conditions in developing countries, and ability to analyze the policy context at country level building on political economy tools;
- Experience in communicating with government officials and ability present the key results in concise and authoritative manner.

Tasks and responsibilities

- Provide technical and policy advice to MAFAP participating countries to monitor the incidence of their food and agricultural policies in accordance with the MAFAP methodology for public expenditure and price incentive analysis;
- Contribute to the development of technical products to support evidence-based policy reform processes with a focus on agricultural, input, trade, markets, and price policies;
- Conduct analytical studies on specific agricultural policy issues, including (i) input, market, trade and price policies that influence value chain performances, (ii) value chain and commodity market analysis, (iii) price, price stabilisation, and stock policies and (iv) policy coherence analysis, and (v) other emerging issues, such as changing farm structure and emergence of global value chains and their impacts on food supplies and prices.
- Support capacity development activities benefitting government counterparts and other selected national partners.

CANDIDATES WILL BE ASSESSED AGAINST THE FOLLOWING

Minimum Requirements

- Advanced university degree in economics, agricultural economics, development economics, political science or any related field; (a Ph.D. or equivalent degree in a related field will count for two years of professional experience)
- Four years of relevant experience in economic analysis of food and agricultural issues, (agricultural price analysis, food price volatility, storage and price stabilization policies, agricultural market and price policies, agricultural inputs policies);

- Working knowledge of English and limited knowledge of French, Spanish, Chinese, Russian or Arabic.

FAO Core Competencies

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

Technical/Functional Skills

- Work experience in one or more developing countries preferably in Sub Saharan Africa and South Asia
- Extent and relevance of experience in agricultural policy analysis
- Extent and relevance of experience in economic analysis of agricultural and food policies
- Extended and relevance of experience in providing policy advice to governments in developing countries

Selection Criteria

Candidates will be assessed against the requirements listed above.

- Working knowledge of English and limited knowledge of French, Spanish, Chinese, Russian or Arabic.

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

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- 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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