



Issued on: 11 October 2017

Deadline For Application: 25 October 2017

**JOB TITLE:** Quantitative economic analysis research assistant (C level)

**TYPE OF CONTRACT:** Consultant or PSA

**DUTY STATION:** Rome

**ORGANIZATIONAL UNIT:** ESP/SOCIAL POLICIES AND RURAL INSTITUTIONS

**DURATION:** Up to 11 months on a WAE basis

*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 Social Policies and Rural Institutions Division (ESP) coordinates FAO's work on social protection, gender equality, decent rural employment, rural institutions and people's empowerment, and the right to food. It is responsible for working with member countries and other partners to reduce rural poverty through strengthening social protection systems, diversifying rural employment opportunities, reducing gender gaps and other social inequalities in agriculture, strengthening producer organizations, improving the rural poor's access to productive resources and rural services, and achieving the overall goal of realizing the human right to adequate food for all.

The Social Protection (SOCPRO) team is part of the ESP Division. The SOCPRO team provides overall guidance on FAO's approach to social protection, and technical support to decentralized offices in four core areas: (i) ensuring the expansion of coverage of social protection to rural areas; (ii) promoting policy and programmatic synergies between agriculture, natural resource management and social protection; (iii) promoting nutrition sensitive social protection systems; and (iii) the development of risk informed and shock responsive social protection.

One specialized area of focus of the SOCPRO team relates to the generation of robust evidence on the economic and productive impacts of cash transfers at individual, household and local economy levels, and the combined impacts of social protection and agriculture interventions as compared to standalone programmes. This evidence is helping to develop an understanding of the role of coherent agricultural and social protection interventions in increasing resilience, fostering productive inclusion and creating pathways for poor and vulnerable rural households to move out of poverty and food insecurity.

## FAO International Consultants and Call purpose

The Organization frequently engages experts to work on short-term projects as international consultants. The functions of a consultant are results-oriented and normally involve analysing complex issues, directing seminars or training courses, preparing documents for conferences and meetings, or writing reports on matters within their area of expertise. An international consultant is engaged by the Organization to provide expertise, skills or knowledge for the performance of a specific task or piece of work, which would be short-term by nature. The assignment may involve full-time or part-time functions similar to those of staff members. The assignment can be from 1 month up to 11 months on a When-Actually-Employed (WAE) basis. The possibility of extension is subject to satisfactory performance and depending on the resources and needs of the Organization.

The purpose of this Call is to attract qualified candidates for consultancies in the area of Social Protection to populate the divisional roster for this profile. Individuals who satisfactorily meet or exceed the requirements of the Call will be included in the divisional Roster of Social Protection Specialists. Candidates who are registered in the Roster will be considered for future contracts when relevant opportunities arise.

## Reporting Lines

The Research Assistant reports to the Senior Economist/Social Protection Team Leader.

## Technical Focus

The consultant will provide support to ESP in the area of quantitative analysis of social protection and agricultural policies and programmes, including impact evaluations, observational studies and/or the analysis of secondary data such as the Living Conditions Measurement Surveys, the Demographic Health Surveys, and other similar surveys.

## Tasks and responsibilities

1. Conduct general data management tasks (generating variables, cleaning data, matching datasets)
2. Contribute to statistical and micro-econometric analysis of both primary and secondary data (model selection, program writing), with a focus on informing the design and implementation of coherent agricultural and social protection policies and programmes

3. Contribute to the generation of evidence on the impacts of social protection programmes on agricultural livelihoods
4. Provide inputs into the generation of robust evidence on the impacts of social protection and agricultural programmes on agricultural livelihoods
5. Provide evidence-based technical inputs to advise FAO country and regional offices and partner governments, upon request
6. Present findings at informal seminars within FAO and, as requested, at external conferences on behalf of FAO
7. Perform other duties as necessary.

The position may include international travel in support of project activities.

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## CANDIDATES WILL BE ASSESSED AGAINST THE FOLLOWING

### Minimum Requirements

- MSc in Economics, Econometrics, Agricultural or Development Economics with graduate-level econometrics.
- Course work and/or practical experience with impact evaluation
- At least three years of experience dealing with household survey datasets and panel data sets
- Good knowledge of Stata or other statistical software like SPSS, R, SAS, etc.
- Excellent writing skills and oral presentation skills.
- Solid knowledge of English and limited knowledge of French or Spanish. Publication record in peer-reviewed journals highly desirable

### FAO Core Competencies

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

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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*.

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### 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](mailto: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/>

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### 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](mailto:iRecruitment@fao.org)

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