



Issued on: 18 October 2017

Deadline For Application: 01 November 2017

ROSTER: COMMUNITY MOBILIZATION AND EMPOWERMENT CONSULTANTS

TYPE OF CONTRACT: International Consultant or PSA

JOB TITLE: Community Mobilization and Empowerment Specialist

DUTY STATION: Rome or FAO decentralized office

ORGANIZATIONAL UNIT: SOCIAL POLICIES AND RURAL INSTITUTION DIVISION (ESP)

DURATION: Up to 11 months on 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 Rural Institutions Division (ESP) coordinates FAO's work on various social dimensions including on rural institutions, services, social protection, gender equality, decent rural employment and the right to food. Within ESP, the Rural Institutions, Services and Empowerment (RISE) Team works to promote inclusive rural institutions and effective service systems to create an enabling environment for rural people to actively participate and seize opportunities to improve their livelihoods in a sustainable manner. The Team supports countries in applying territorial approaches in policy making and development planning; promoting pluralistic rural services and financial systems; strengthening producer organizations and empowering rural women and men through gender-sensitive participatory and community-driven approaches to policies and programs. The work on rural institutions and people's empowerment contributes to FAO's Strategic Programme "Reduce Rural Poverty" (SP3) and its output "Rural organizations and institutions strengthened and collective action of the rural poor facilitated".

The area of work of "Community mobilization and empowerment" highlights the key role of rural populations, in particular women and youth, as active actors of their own development. It promotes community-driven development, collective action and the leadership and voice of the most marginalized in an effort to improve their livelihoods, food security and gender equality. By using participatory communication, including FAO signature approaches such as the Dimitra Clubs, it contributes to developing the capacities of rural populations to organize and take action, join formal organizations, and improve their livelihoods. Dealing with the "non-economic" dimension of rural poverty is fundamental in this area of work, which also focuses on improving the access of the most vulnerable to information, communication flows, enhance their decision-making power at different levels, and address gender inequalities and rural populations' empowerment.

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 Community Mobilization and Empowerment 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 Community Mobilization and Empowerment Specialists. Candidates who are registered in the Roster will be considered for future contracts when relevant opportunities arise.

Reporting Lines

The Consultant reports to the RISE Team Leader or responsible technical officer.

Technical Focus

Rural poverty, gender, people's empowerment, information, participatory communication, community mobilization for rural women, men, including youth, capacity development, women's leadership, social dimension of poverty reduction, territorial rural development, access to resources, ICTs

Tasks and responsibilities

They are related to at least three main areas of work:

- **Technical assistance:** provide technical support to field activities, including through missions, in the area of community mobilization, gender, empowerment, information and participatory communication, in particular with relation to FAO-Dimitra's Clubs approach, in sub-Saharan countries (Democratic Republic of Congo, Mali, Niger, etc.) and in other countries/regions as needed. This might include providing backstopping, conducting training, participating in technical meetings, workshops and conferences, as well as providing support to the development of programme /project proposals. It also includes support to the implementation of territorial rural development approaches with a focus on stakeholders' policy dialogue and negotiation processes and on the development of territorial development plans.
- **Information and knowledge:** provide support to capitalisation and communication processes and knowledge sharing in the fields of community mobilization, gender, empowerment, and to the production of various kinds of communication materials (guidance, methodological, newsletters, factsheets, advocacy notes, etc.). This might include organizing south-south exchanges, monitor impact of field activities, etc. The development and application of territorial diagnostic tools and methodologies will be required to generate the information and evidence needed to support the policy dialogue and decision making.
- **Linkages within FAO:** support the responsible technical officer in developing and implementing partnerships with FAO and joint programmes and activities within output 1.1 (Outcome 1 SP3) and with other FAO strategic objectives on the interlinked issues of capacity development of informal rural organisations, community mobilization, gender, governance. Provide support for ensuring linkages with other FAO participatory approaches (JFFLS, FFS, FFF) and to intra/inter-institutional communication for possible synergies on issues contributing to the results in this area of work and FAO objectives.

CANDIDATES WILL BE ASSESSED AGAINST THE FOLLOWING

Minimum Requirements

- Advanced University degree in communication and information, social sciences, rural/territorial development planning and management, education sciences or a related field
- At least three years of relevant experience in rural development, community mobilization, participatory methodologies, gender and communication in rural development, including in the fields of participatory communication and media relations
- Working knowledge of English and French or Spanish

FAO Core Competencies

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

Technical/Functional Skills

- Work experience in the relevant area of work, particularly in the field.
- Extent and relevance of experience in rural/territorial development analysis and implementation
- Extent and relevance of experience in the area of gender-sensitive communication, in particular participatory communication in rural development. Knowledge of FAO Dimitra Clubs' approach is an asset.
- Extent and relevance of experience working with community radio stations in Sub-Saharan Africa, or other regions.
- Extent and relevance of experience in the preparation and dissemination of communication, information, and production of technical materials as well as developing training material and delivering training activities on the above topics
- Working knowledge of other FAO official languages is desirable (Arabic, Chinese, French, Russian or Spanish)

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/>
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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

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