



Issued on: 25 October 2017

Deadline For Application: 22 November 2017

JOB TITLE: Early Warning Early Action Specialist

TYPE OF CONTRACT: Consultant or PSA.SBS

DUTY STATION: Rome

ORGANIZATIONAL UNIT: AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT ECONOMICS DIVISION (ESA)

DURATION: Up to 11 months (with possibility of 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 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).

Evidence shows that the frequency and intensity of climate-driven natural disasters and conflicts is increasing. Natural disasters are occurring nearly five times as often compared to 40 years ago, with great costs to local economies, livelihoods and lives. Due to expanding needs, competing priorities and scarce resources globally, there is growing recognition that new tools are needed to ensure smart, effective investments to help attenuate the impact of disasters before they occur.

FAO's Early Warning Early Action (EWEA) translates warnings into anticipatory – or early – actions to reduce the impact of disasters on vulnerable and food insecure communities. Acting early, before a disaster has actually happened, or reached its peak is critical: it can save lives and protect livelihoods from the immediate shocks and increasing the resilience of local communities over time. FAO EWEA is key element of FAO's Strategic Programme 5: 'Increase the resilience of livelihoods to threats and crises'. FAO EWEA work includes global level (risk analysis, advocacy and partnerships) as well as country activities (implementation of country level EWEA systems).

FAO EWEA is part of a growing number of Forecast based Financing (FbF) approaches being implemented by organisations worldwide. In FAO, this initiative counts with the support of a number of resource partners including the EU-FAO Partnership Programme: "Information for Nutrition Food Security and Resilience for Decision-Making" (INFORMED). For more information on FAO EWEA visit www.fao.org/emergencies/fao-in-action/ewea .

FAO International Consultants and Call purpose

The Organization frequently engages experts to work on short-term activities and projects as international consultants or under personal service agreements (PSA.SBS) at various levels of experience (see minimum requirements below). International consultants or PSAs are engaged by the Organization to provide expertise, skills or knowledge for the performance of a specific task or piece of work, which is short-term by nature. The assignment may involve full-time or part-time functions, with duration ranging from 1 month up to 11 months. The possibility of extension is subject to satisfactory performance and dependant on the availability of resources and needs of the Organization. Assignments can require travel or missions/appointment to field locations.

Individuals meeting or exceeding the requirements of the Call, determined through an interview process, will be included in the ESA Divisional Roster. Experts who are registered in the Roster are available for consideration for a period of up to 48 months. ESA Division will use this roster as the primary mechanism to resource future vacancies within the technical requirements covered by the Call.

Reporting Lines

The Early Warning Early Action Consultant reports to the Early Warning Early Action Technical Officer.

Technical Focus

Support the further development, institutionalisation and country level implementation of Forecast based Financing/Early Warning Early Action programmes.

Tasks and responsibilities

The assigned tasks and responsibilities related to **global level analytical work** can include the following:

- Lead or support the global risk analysis process and the production of quarterly Global EWEA Reports including liaising closely with relevant internal and external stakeholders and ensuring linkages with other analytical products;
- Support external representation and advocacy of EWEA with donors, technical partners and UN Agencies;
- Support the communication of EWEA work through tailored products and different means including web, social media, press releases and other

The assigned tasks and responsibilities related to **supporting the implementation of EWEA at country level** can include the following:

- Support the development and implementation of an operational strategy for mainstreaming EWEA corporately through the revision of procedures, accountability frameworks and the development and delivery of trainings;
- Support the operational implementation of Early Actions at country level including conducting field missions, advising on appropriate actions and operational arrangements as well as accessing the Early Action Fund;
- Contribute to strategic thinking of the FAO EWEA area of work and its wider applicability in the context of national government and partner capacity building;
- Analyse the Return on Investment (ROI) of Early Actions and support country offices in doing so.

CANDIDATES WILL BE ASSESSED AGAINST THE FOLLOWING

Minimum Requirements

- Formal education in Agriculture, Early Warning, Disaster Risk Management, Economics, Social/Political Science, Food security or a closely related field.
 - Consultant level B and C – advanced university degree. A first level University degree in combination with demonstrated, relevant and qualifying professional experience in forecast based financing/early warning systems of at least 3 years can be accepted in lieu of an advanced university degree.
 - PSA.SBS – university degree
- Relevant experience in early warning food security and vulnerability analysis:
 - Consultant level B (Expert) - at least 5 years of relevant experience
 - Consultant level C/PSA.SBS - at least 1 year of relevant experience
- Working knowledge of English and limited knowledge of one or more of the following: French, Spanish, Arabic. In the case of PSAs, the requirement is for working knowledge in English.

FAO Core Competencies

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

Technical/Functional Skills

- Work experience in more than one location or area of work, particularly in field positions is desirable
- Extent of knowledge of FAO's mandate, organisational structure and role in EWEA, considered an asset
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills, writing ability, and oral presentation skills
- Ability to plan and organize own work, deliver results and meet deadlines.
- Ability to perform well in cross-disciplinary teams.

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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