



Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Vacancy Announcement No.: IRC5699

Issued on: 21 September 2018
Deadline For Application: 12 October 2018

Position Title:	Senior Policy Officer (Rural Institutions, Services And Empowerment)	Grade Level:	P-5
Organizational Unit:	Social Policies and Rural Institutions Division, ESP	Duty Station:	Italy, Rome
		Duration *:	Fixed term: 2 years with possibility of extension
		Post Number:	0799971
		CCOG Code:	1L09

The length of appointment for internal FAO candidates will be established in accordance with applicable policies pertaining to the extension of appointments

- 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.
- The incumbent may be re-assigned to different activities and/or duty stations depending on the evolving needs of the Organization.

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 rural institutions, 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.

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 the transformation towards sustainable food and agriculture, applying territorial approaches in policy making and development planning; promoting pluralistic services and financial systems; empowering rural people and communities; strengthening producer organizations and improving the rural poor's access to productive resources and rural services, including financial services and investment capital.

Reporting Lines

The Senior Policy Officer works under the strategic coordination of, and reports to, the ESP Director on specific issues related to Rural Institutions, Services and Empowerment.

Technical Focus

Deep knowledge of rural and territorial development, rural livelihoods, institutional development, coordination and institutional arrangements for poverty reduction, community-based development, sustainable agriculture and food security, rural service provision issues, strategies for economic inclusion in the rural sector, and agribusiness and value chain development in a developing country context. In depth grasp of economic and social issues, conceptual thinking and ability to analyse complex information to substantiate strategic conclusions and arguments.

Key Results

Leadership and technical policy expertise for the planning, development and implementation of Departmental / Division Programmes of work, projects, products, services in accordance with Departmental and FAO Strategic Objectives.

Key Functions

- Plans, manages, or leads highly specialized or multi-disciplinary teams, leads, coordinates, and/or participates on Organization-wide, cross-Departmental committees, project teams, and working groups, and/or provides technical leadership/secretariat services on technical networks and/or international technical policy and standard setting bodies.
- Analyzes global and country specific requirements and relevant technical issues to provide critical input into the FAO Strategic Objectives, Programme of Work, work plans and the supporting budgets and/or resourcing strategies.
- Implements and monitors programmes of work involving the development of the approach, evidence based strategies, and related tools, methodologies and the supporting system/database, monitoring and reporting frameworks.

- Conducts, designs and oversees research and analysis activities to support the development of technical standards, international instruments, innovation, technical reports, publications and/or on-going programme development as well as the provision of technical and/or policy advisory services.
- Provides technical and policy advice to Member countries and technical support to decentralized offices in the development and implementation of their programmes.
- Leads and/or collaborates in, provides technical backstopping to and ensures the quality / effectiveness of capacity development and knowledge sharing activities within member countries such as policy support, organizational development and individual learning events including preparation of related information, learning, on-line tools.
- Represents the Organization at international meetings and conferences, identifies and implements strategic partnerships, advocates best practices and increased policy dialogue and develops and negotiates effective working relationships/consensus and agreements with international and national stakeholders.
- Leads and/or participates in resource mobilization activities in accordance with the FAO Corporate strategy.

Specific Functions

- Leads and provides strategic direction to the team on Rural Institutions, Services and Empowerment of ESP in line with the Strategic Objectives of FAO;
- Provides a vision, strategy, leadership and coherent approach on institution building for rural development, economic inclusion and poverty reduction (including at subnational levels), strengthening rural institutions (including governmental institutions and relationships with other stakeholders) and access to rural services and finance, drawing on international and corporate good practices, frameworks and knowledge;
- Promotes and supports partnerships and resource mobilization initiatives, conceptualizing and developing proposals for funding opportunities on areas of relevance to the RISE Team's mandate;
- Provides policy and technical advice to FAO member countries and international partners in the fields of territorial development; rural development; institution building and coordination (including at subnational levels); rural institutions, services and empowerment; and agribusiness finance;
- Coordinates and manages the work of the team members and provides strategic guidance for planning and implementation of the different areas of work covered by the team;
- Organizes and/or represents FAO in international events and multilateral processes on the relevant topics, and maintains networks and partnerships with key government, UN, civil society and other development partners to promote FAO mandate and achieve or enhance results.

CANDIDATES WILL BE ASSESSED AGAINST THE FOLLOWING

Minimum Requirements

- Advanced university degree in Rural Development, Economics, Agricultural or Agribusiness Finance, Institutional Economics, Development Economics or related field in agriculture or social sciences
- Ten years of relevant experience in one or more of the following areas: policy advice, development and implementation of rural development programmes in developing countries, institution building at both national and local level, agricultural and/or agribusiness finance, including relevant working experience in developing countries
- Working knowledge of English, French or Spanish and limited knowledge of one of the other two or Arabic, Chinese, Russian

Competencies

- Results Focus
- Leading, Engaging and Empowering Others
- Communication
- Partnering and Advocating
- Knowledge Sharing and Continuous Improvement
- Strategic Thinking

Technical/Functional Skills

- Work experience in more than one location or area of work, particularly in field positions is essential.
- Extent and relevance of understanding, experience and knowledge of rural development, rural livelihoods, territorial development, community-based development, institution building, sustainable agriculture and food security, development of agricultural and rural financial instruments and services and risk management mechanisms
- Extent and relevance of experience in planning, policy support and implementation of programmes related to the topics listed in the second bullet above, in line with the mandate of FAO
- Extent and relevance of experience in the analysis, design, implementation and evaluation of programmes and projects related to the areas listed in the second bullet above
- Extent and relevance of experience of high-level policy advice on related issues

- Experience in organizing high-level international meetings, seminars and training courses in related areas

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

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- All candidates should possess computer/word processing skills
- Your application will be screened based on the information provided in your iRecruitment online profile (see "How to Apply"). We strongly recommend that you ensure that the information is accurate and complete including employment record, academic qualifications and language skills
- Please note that FAO will only consider academic credentials or degrees obtained from an educational institution recognised in the IAU/UNESCO list
- Candidates endorsed in the selection process for this vacancy announcement will be considered for the FAO Professional Employment Roster for a period of two years. The Roster is used to fill other similar positions at the same or lower grade, and in the same or another duty station
- Candidates may be requested to provide performance assessments

REMUNERATION

A competitive compensation and benefits package is offered. For information on UN salaries, allowances and benefits, click on the following link: http://www.un.org/Depts/OHRM/salaries_allowances/salary.htm

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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