Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

PROFESSIONAL VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT Nº: OEKD-660-11-PRJ

Issued on:

Deadline For Application: **9 May 2011**

POSITION TITLE:	**Information Systems Specialist** (Global Forum on Agricultural Research (GFAR))	**GRADE LEVEL:**	**P-3**
		DUTY STATION:	**Rome**
ORGANIZATIONAL UNIT:	**Office of Knowledge Exchange, Research and Extension, OEK**	**DURATION ∗:**	**Fixed term: 3 years (with possibility of extension)***
		POST CODE/Nº:	**N**
		CCOG CODE:	**1A05**

Applications from qualified women as well as from qualified nationals of non-and under-represented member countries are encouraged

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Under the direct supervision of the Senior Officer, the incumbent will technically support the conceptualization, design, development and implementation of information and knowledge management services in GFAR and its constituent stakeholder organizations. In particular, will:

- Develop, in collaboration with partner institutions in agricultural research and innovation systems, common standards, protocols and methodologies for information management and sharing.
- Maintain networks of collaboration with agricultural and technical specialists in both FAO and the Coherence in Information for Agricultural Research for Development Initiative (CIARD) to gather and ensure effective dissemination of information.
- Establish and further enhance, in direct liaison with GFAR stakeholders and partner institutions, information and knowledge standards, protocols and methodologies at international level ensuring that their needs are reflected.
- Manage the technical infrastructure of e-GFAR and related GFAR metadata repositories ensuring the adoption of standards and consistency in GFAR information services.
- Administer and further develop the technical aspects of the CIARD Routemap to Information Nodes and Gateways (CIARD-RING).
- Develop/adopt methodologies and tools to access decentralized and distributed information sources in a consistent and efficient way.
- Support and coordinate the testing and implementation of new tools and software for information and knowledge management in order to support GFAR stakeholders at the regional and national level.
- Prepare papers for and participate in international conferences and working groups on standards, information management and information systems for the further development of information services.
- Perform other related duties as required.

* Appointment/Promotion to this position is for duration of assignment only

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

Candidates should meet the following:

- University Degree or post-degree studies in Information Science/Technology, Computer Science, Library Sciences
- Five years of relevant experience in managing electronic information services and systems
- Working knowledge of English, French or Spanish and limited knowledge of one of the other two or Arabic, Chinese, Russian

SELECTION CRITERIA

Candidates will be assessed against the following:

- Relevance of experience in manageing electronic information services and systems
- Proven contributions in exploring, adapting and applying new technologies and methodologies in knowledge and information management
- Depth of knowledge of and experience in information and knowledge management techniques and exchange systems using advanced web technologies (Web 2, Semantic Web)
- Depth of knowledge of PHP and Java
- Extent of experience with website management and programming languages and preferably experience with the Content Management Systems used by FAO-OEK (e.g. Drupal, Infoglue, Typo3)
- Extent of experience with representing and managing multilingual information
- Extent of experience with description languages (e.g XML, RDF)
- Creative thinking, initiative, high sense of responsibility, and ability to plan and organise work
- Demonstrated ability in analysing and evaluating complex technical issues
- Extent of both oral and written communication skills

Please note that all candidates should possess computer/word processing skills and should be capable of working with people of different national and cultural backgrounds.

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

REMUNERATION

A competitive compensation and benefits package is offered. For information on UN salaries, allowances and benefits, click on the following link: http://icsc.un.org/

TO APPLY: Carefully read and follow the Guidelines to applicants

Send your application to: V.A **OEKD-660-11-PRJ**
Executive Secretary, Global Forum on Agriculture Research (GFAR), OEKD
FAO Viale delle Terme di Caracalla 00153 Rome ITALY
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