



**VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT  
GCP/RAS/276/IFA**

**Pro-Poor Policy Approaches to Address Risk and Vulnerability at the Country Level  
Policy Facilitator (Consultant)**

**Introduction**

The majority of the poor in the Asia-Pacific region depend on an inherently risky activity, agriculture, for their livelihoods. Yet risk mitigation and adaptation strategies require human and financial capital, which the poor lack. The impact on the poor can thus be serious. For example, there is evidence that 20 – 50 percent of the people below a poverty line at the time of a typical household survey have been pushed into poverty by a severe income shock. Moreover, once pushed below the poverty line, households tend to stay there.

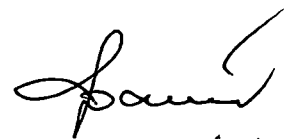
Public policies to help reduce the vulnerability of the rural poor to various risks, particularly when these are relatively unfamiliar, such as the risks posed by market integration, price volatility and climate change are therefore required.

To meet these urgent needs, IFAD and FAO have agreed to implement a collaborative programme with the title Pro-Poor Policy Approaches to Address Risk and Vulnerability at the Country Level, which is expected to become operational in early 2012 and to run for 4 years. This programme aims to strengthen capacity in the project countries to design and implement public policies to help protect the rural poor from various risks, particularly those that are relatively new. In order to do this, it also aims to achieve a better understanding of the importance of risk in the lives of the rural poor, and of the strategies available to them to mitigate and adapt to its effects. Four countries will be covered under the programme, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Nepal, and Viet Nam.

In order to facilitate the implementation of this programme, FAO intends to recruit a policy facilitator, whose responsibilities and qualifications are described below.

**Responsibilities**

Under the overall supervision of the FAO Assistant Director-General/Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific, the direct supervision of FAO's Regional Operations Branch (RAPR) and the technical supervision of the FAO Economic, Social and Policy Assistance Group for Asia and the Pacific (RAP-ESP) and in close collaboration with IFAD's Asia and the Pacific Division, other FAO staff, the National Programme Coordinators (NPCs) and National Focal Point Institutions (NFPIs) of the participating countries, the Policy Facilitator will have the overall managerial, and technical responsibility for successful implementation of the project's activities, coordination of the work of the international and national consultants and direct technical inputs/support to the organization and delivery of policy analysis and capacity building activities under the regional projects GCP/RAS/276/IFA and TCP for the same subject. He/she will have the main responsibility of facilitating the policy analysis and dialogue work at the country level. The Policy Facilitator will perform, but not be restricted to, the following duties:

  
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1. In consultation with the NPCs and NFPIs, prepare the project work plan and implementation arrangements, assess requirements for national and international consultants, equipment and facilities to be provided under the programme for a smooth takeoff and implementation of the programme and help select and recruit international and national consultants (including TCDC experts where relevant), finalize their ToRs and provide necessary technical inputs and guidance in their work.
2. Provide technical support to collaborating NPCs and NFPIs in
  - a. identifying the analytical studies to be undertaken under the programme through national consultations,
  - b. the preparation of ToRs for the studies, with a particular focus on scope, objectives and methodology,
  - c. providing technical oversight and advice during the preparation of the studies and reviewing and commenting on them for finalization,
  - d. taking remedial action where necessary.
3. Facilitate capacity building of collaborating NPCs and NFPIs in the analyses, formulation and implementation of pro-poor policies, and in assessment of the impact of those policies through technical backstopping and workshops.
4. Organize and provide technical support to policy dialogues with civil society, private sector, and farmers' organizations in identifying key risks faced by smallholders and other groups of rural poor, identifying policy solutions, and validating findings of policy analysis and recommendations.
5. Prepare six-monthly and consolidated annual progress reports for submission to FAO-RAP and IFAD in accordance with FAO and IFAD's guidance.
6. Manage the project's financial resources in accordance with FAO's rules and regulations, prepare statements of expenditure and withdrawal applications when required, and prepare budget revisions if necessary.
7. Supervise the work of project personnel.
8. Prepare draft terminal report of the two projects.
9. Undertake any other tasks necessary for effective implementation of the project.

**Duty station:** Bangkok, Thailand, with travel to other countries  
**Duration of assignment:** 11 months, with possibility of extension  
**Language:** English

**Minimum qualifications and experience**

- Ph. D. or Master's degree in Economics, Agricultural Economics or related subject,
- Eight to ten years of relevant experience in agricultural development, food security and nutrition policies, pro- poor policies (Ph.D. or equivalent degree may substitute for two years of the required experience)
- Good computer skills in MS-applications (Word, Excel, Internet, Email)
- Good working knowledge of English

**Interested candidates should submit the following documents**

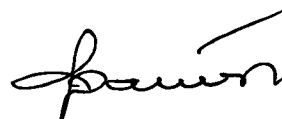
- An application letter addressed to [VA-RAP-FPG-CONS@fao.org](mailto:VA-RAP-FPG-CONS@fao.org).
- Detailed and complete CV
- A personal history form (PHF) available at:  
[http://www.fao.org/fileadmin/user\\_upload/Employment/ADM11E.DOT](http://www.fao.org/fileadmin/user_upload/Employment/ADM11E.DOT)

**Deadline for applications: 26 March 2012**

The selection process may include an interview. In that case, only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for an interview; all applications will be treated as strictly confidential.

**Please note:**

- Applications which do not meet the specific minimum requirements or are received after the closing date will be rejected
- Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted
- Qualified women are particularly encouraged to apply
- FAO is a smoke-free environment
- All applications materials will not be returned



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