

**PROFESSIONAL VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT N°: RNE-19-14-PRJ**

Issued on: 11 April 2014

Deadline For Application: 2 May 2014

POSITION TITLE:	Chief Technical Adviser (Agricultural Extension & Technology Transfer)	GRADE LEVEL:	P-5
ORGANIZATIONAL UNIT:	Regional Office for the Near East and North Africa RNE	DUTY STATION:	Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
		DURATION *:	Three years (fixed term)
		POST CODE/N°:	unidentified
		CCOG CODE:	1.H.01

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

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.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Under the overall guidance of the RNE-ADG, the Senior Field Programme Officer, RNE, the supervision of the FAO Programme Coordinator (PC) in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA) and the technical guidance of the Lead Technical officer (LTO), RNE and Lead Technical Unit (LTU), AGPM and in consultation with the National Project Director (NPD) and the Department of Extension of the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA), the Project Manager (PM) will be responsible for the overall management and day-to-day implementation of the project. In particular, the incumbent will:

- analyze project's specific requirements and relevant technical issues to provide critical input and administrative guidance for its implementation and the execution of the Ministry of Agriculture's policies in relation to the project;
- review, analyze and provide technical advice on the existing extension /technology transfer strategies, extension system, programmes and other documents to identify gaps and its impact on the farming communities and develop a vision statement and plan of action for extension in KSA
- identify and implement strategic partnerships, advocate best practices and increased policy dialogue, develop and negotiate effective working relationships/consensus and agreements with international and national stakeholders;
- implements and monitor programmes of work involving the development of the approach and preparation of expenditure plan;
- prepare project progress reports to review and monitor the outputs and results of the project against agreed work plan, and to identify constraints and issues that require timely resolution and corrective actions;
- plan and oversee the provision of all FAO inputs, including organizing and assisting in purchase of equipment and supplies, and arranging for their maintenance;
- plan, manage and lead highly specialized or multi-disciplinary teams, coordinate, and provides technical leadership
- develop and implement training activities and study tours on agricultural extension & technology transfer, and participate in the selection of the host countries and institutions;
- conducts, designs and oversees research and analysis activities to support the formulation of organizational studies and the development of manuals, guidelines and checklists for documenting, institutionalizing and sustaining the project outputs and results;
- perform other related duties as required.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

Candidates should meet the following:

- Advanced university degree in agricultural extension and/or rural development programme management and implementation
- Seven years of experience in agricultural extension reform, institutional development and strengthening of agricultural advisory services;

Working knowledge of English, French or Spanish and limited knowledge of one of the other two or Russian, Arabic or Chinese

SELECTION CRITERIA

Candidates will be assessed against the following:

- Extent and relevance of experience in agricultural extension and rural development programme management and implementation
- Demonstrated capacity in strategic thinking, analysis, visioning and planning;
- Excellent communication skills both orally and in writing including the ability to write concise technical reports in English;
- Demonstrated knowledge and experience in agricultural extension and rural development in the Near East is considered a strong asset;
- Working knowledge of Arabic is considered a strong asset;
- Knowledge and experience in UN procedures in project implementation would be an asset;
- Work experience in more than one location or area of work, particularly in field positions is essential

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**

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/>

For guidelines to applicants, please visit the Application Toolkit at: <http://www.fao.org/employment/current-vacancies/project/en/>

Send your application to:

V.A **RNE-19-14-PRJ**
Operations Unit
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P.O. Box 2223 Cairo
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Please note that FAO staff members are international civil servants subject to the authority of the Director-General and may be assigned to any activities or office of the organization.

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