



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Terms of Reference for Consultant/PSA

Job Title: Senior agri-economics Consultant on Typology and Indicators to characterize agricultural holdings for improved policy formulation	
Division/Department: Land and Water Division, Natural Resources Management and Environment Department.	
Programme/Project Number: GCP/GLO/462/IFA Methodologies and pilots for a World Agriculture Watch	
Location: Home station with travel to Rome as needed	
Expected Start Date of Assignment: 1 st march	Duration: 40 days over 9 months (actually employed basis)
Reports to: Marie-Aude Even	Title: Executive Secretary, World Agriculture Watch (WAW)

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF TASK(S) AND OBJECTIVES TO BE ACHIEVED

BACKGROUND

The structures of agriculture and related practices are changing in many regions of the world in response to market signals and other drivers more rapidly than before. These drivers may affect different types of agricultural holdings in different ways, notably according to their varying human, financial, physical, natural and social assets. Therefore, the diversity of holdings and their practices needs to be taken into account when formulating and implementing public policies, giving specific attention to the most vulnerable players, including women farmers and family based holdings.

In response to this rationale, the World Agriculture Watch (WAW) initiative has been set up in FAO, with initial support from IFAD, France and CIRAD. It aims at generating and disseminating better knowledge rural and agricultural transformations so that national and international stakeholders together may be in a better position to build related dialogue and design policy interventions, taking into account the specific stakes of the different types of farmers.

WAW will provide a global platform around a common methodology and services, in order to facilitate the acquisition and sharing of locally relevant and internationally-comparable data and information, in support of more evidence-based decision making on issues which influence agricultural transformations. It will notably rely on local based observatories documenting and bringing into dialogue such changes. In addition to being owned and useful for the specific countries, this would also provide, at the global level, a consolidated evidence-based knowledge system for designing policies, development programmes for rural poor, responses to food crises, etc. In order to do this in an internationally comparable manner, it will be necessary to develop some common methods including concepts, definitions and standards which could later be adopted at global level and integrated in statistical systems.

FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSABILITIES

Under the supervision of the World Agriculture Watch secretariat, the NRL Director and a multidisciplinary support team involving notably FAO, IFAD and CIRAD relevant technical colleagues, the senior consultant will coordinate, guide, backstop and ensure the technical quality of the development, test and validation of the core pillar of the WAW methodological framework, i.e. an international typology of agricultural holdings based on a core set of distinguishing and characterizing indicators, including notably labour, and covering the different assets of the sustainable livelihood framework. Such framework shall support improved policy formulation, taking into account specific stakes of the different types of holdings and enable further discussion and analysis related to sustainable development, food security, poverty, employment, sustainable natural resource management. Such typology development will be carried out in close collaboration with the FAO Statistics Division. Indeed, it will notably first be applied to existing statistics, notably agricultural censuses, which are the basis to know and monitor agricultural structural changes, and LSMS-Riga. It aims in the long run to support as well the development of overall guidelines for countries to be used as part of their agricultural census planning and analysis efforts.

The consultant will be supported by a junior consultant working under the senior consultant supervision and be carried out in close collaboration with three local observatory partners located in Vietnam, Madagascar and Nicaragua, closely supported by CIRAD and responsible to also provide contributions from local literature and views, tests and validation workshop with key stakeholders.

The specific tasks of the senior consultant will be finalized according to consultant profile and availability but include notably:

a. Participate and provide necessary guidance to inception meetings (around 2 days by 12th march)

At the beginning of this project, 2 inception video-conference meetings will be organized to introduce the work and its participants, review and agree on overall plan of activities, overall expectations and immediate directions and guidance to elaborate draft typology. A first meeting would be internal, among the core implementation team (WAW secretariat, FAO and CIRAD main officers involved, consultants, observatories), a second consultation will be then opened up to overall inter-departmental FAO task force, IFAD and eventual other WAW members.

b. Elaboration of a draft international typology and protocol (around 20 working days over 2.5 months, by end of May)

Guide and back stop Preparatory work to be undertaken by junior consultant and observatories

Preparatory work includes Review of WAW proposal, existing national and international farm typologies and related literature, related experts/partners consultation (including e-discussion) and review and selection of dataset for pilot testing

Elaboration of first draft typology & associated core set of indicators

Based on preparatory work, Elaboration of a proposed typology and associated core set of variables and indicators, justified and highlighting eventual differences with WAW proposal if any. proposed protocol for testing and providing illustrations

Review and finalization of draft typology based on consultation and validation meeting

Guide the secretariat and junior consultant in the Organization of consultation (written + eventual meeting + interviews + e-discussion)

Revision and finalization of a draft typology and protocol for test, based on consultation and validation meeting

Participate and provide technical guidance to validation meeting with core partners,

c. Back stopping test of typology, core set of indicators & implementation report (around 12 days over following 3 months – by beg September)

Follow up and provide needed backstopping to ensure the quality and comparability of the test implemented by the 3 observatories and by a junior consultant on 3 other countries agricultural dataset (notably census and LSMS-RIGA), providing possible illustrations of the results (database, figures, tables, maps etc...)

Such activity will notably include:

- Technical assistance during monthly video conferences involving observatories: initial to further explain practically protocol and test, others to share progress done, issues raised etc...
- Backstopping to major issues raised and summarized / transmitted by WAW secretariat (bimonthly)
- Review and provide recommendations on implementation reports by junior consultant and observatories, including illustrations of typology, feasibility and recommendations

d. Elaboration of Final international typology of agricultural holdings and assessment (around 6 days over following 2 months. By end of October)

Guide and review Elaboration of final report and protocol by junior consultant, on the basis of the compilation & synthesis of international and national reports, and revision of protocol on the recommended data processing steps to analyse national data from agricultural censuses or other sources.

Review, validation and Finalization of final report and associated typology, illustrations and protocol

Guide the secretariat and junior consultant in the Organization of consultation and validation meeting with core partners,

Participate to review and finalization meetings

Guide and review the finalization of the draft typology and protocol for test by the junior consultant

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Expected Outputs:	Required completion date
Output 1 Draft International Typology of Agricultural Holdings and associated core set of indicators, based on corresponding literature and experts consultation (activity a)	Draft for consultation and adoption, within 1.5 month following recruitment, finalized draft for test a month later
Output 2 Reviews of Typology Implementation report including illustrations of typology, corresponding database, feasibility and recommendations (activity b)	Within 5 ½ months following recruitment, no later than 15th September
Output 3 Reviews and recommendations on Final report (draft and finalized) and associated Power Point presentation (activity c)	Consolidated draft for consultation and adoption, Within 8 months following recruitment, by mid- November

REQUIRED COMPETENCIES

- Advanced degree in agricultural economics, at least Master, preferably PhD
- Strong and recognized skills and experience in exploring and analysing unit level statistical data set from surveys (if possible census and Riga-LSMS for instance) and elaborating typology, using various available software, incl. open source
- Experience in indicators development, preferably covering social, economic and environmental fields
- Field experience in agricultural development, farm surveys would be desirable, notably in different context / countries,

- Skills and experience on policy analysis and policy design will be desirable
- Project & team management capacities and experience, notably along multi-cultural and multidisciplinary teams, in order to coordinate and supervise the smooth achievement of the different tasks, but in a collective collaborative effort,
- Analytical and Writing skills (synthesis and analytical report)
- Good knowledge of Microsoft office (word, excel, PowerPoint) and other needed analytical and statistics tools
- Fluent in English and in French (minimally working knowledge)

SELECTION CRITERIA

- Degree of fulfilment of required competencies according to CV – PH form, and provided publications
- Degree of motivation and insertion in the candidate curriculum, possible views of longer term collaboration being appreciated, with the consultant or within institution-network represented

HOW TO APPLY

You are first advised to read carefully the guidelines for applicants

http://www.fao.org/fileadmin/user_upload/Employment/docs/Guidelines_to_Applicant_ENGLISH.pdf

Other useful documents (download by following hyperlink by clicking on the title of document or send mail to waw-secretariat@fao.org):

- [WAW current methodological framework](#),
- [WAW synthesis paper on agricultural transformations](#)
- Detailed draft terms of reference of the consultancy, providing further elements on articulation with work of observatories (by-email)

Please send your application to waw-secretariat@fao.org (the subject line of the message must include the title of the position – International Consultant on Typology and Indicators for agricultural holdings) within **15 February 2013 c.o.b**, including the following documents:

- 1) Completed FAO Personal History Form (available at:
http://www.fao.org/fileadmin/user_upload/Employment/docs/Personal_History_Form.doc)
- 2) cover letter indicating your suitability and motivation as well as Short technical proposal on how proposes to undertake the work, showing further expertise and knowledge available, as well proposed implementation option

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.