



Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Office of Evaluation

Call for Expressions of Interest - Evaluability Assessment of the FAO Strategic Objective

SO4: “Enable Inclusive and Efficient Agricultural and Food Systems”

Background: In June 2013 FAO adopted a revised Strategic Framework¹, which among other things refocused the Organization’s Strategic Objectives (SO) on five major areas of work. The FAO Office of Evaluation (OED) has been asked to conduct an evaluation of SO 4 “*Enable more inclusive and efficient agricultural and food systems*”² in the period 2015-16 for submission to the FAO Governing Bodies in autumn 2016.

Purpose: Before initiating the evaluation of this major programme, OED will carry out an Evaluability Assessment (EA) to determine the feasibility and readiness of evaluating FAO’s work in this area, and identify which components of FAO’s SO4 programme are feasible and worthwhile to evaluate for results, bearing in mind the relatively short time since the programme started and the likely benefits, consequences and costs. The EA should ultimately lead to proposals on the possible scope, approach, methodological design and work-plan of the evaluation.

In particular, the assessment will:

- Review the intervention logic, i.e. assumptions, intended mechanisms and expected outcomes of the programme.
- Judge the extent to which the design, strategy, resources and implementation mechanisms are appropriate given the intervention logic, and are likely to lead to the expected results expressed in the programme log frames/theory of change.
- Assesses the availability of necessary information to answer the questions, including primary and secondary data and the likely ease and cost of access.
- Clarifies with stakeholders and partners how the evaluation could be best used.
- Identifies the most appropriate approach to conduct the evaluation in order to ensure maximum leverage from evaluation results.
- Outlines an evaluation work plan, complete with major tasks, products, budgets, staff resources required and proposed schedule.

¹ <http://www.fao.org/docrep/meeting/027/mg015e.pdf>

² <http://www.fao.org/about/what-we-do/so4/en/>

Scope: Guided by the purpose listed above, this assessment will involve the following tasks:

- (i) Summarize and analyze the programme logic, including the linkages of the programme logic to expected results.
- (ii) Identify what data resources are currently available and accessible, collect their reports and raw datasets, and suggest on filling data gaps before the conduct of the evaluation, including a detailed plan for primary data collection where relevant.
- (iii) Identify key stakeholders and clarify their information needs.
- (iv) Prepare a conceptual framework for the evaluation.
- (v) Define the purpose, scope and methodology of the evaluation, including possible evaluation questions.
- (vi) Consider and propose different possible methods for conducting the evaluation to meet the proposed scope, focus and to answer the questions suggested.
- (vii) Keeping the convenience of the stakeholders in mind, suggest the logistics of the evaluation; also suggest the nature and composition of the team.

Timeframe and composition of the team: The EA will be conducted by a two-person team in two phases. The first phase (July-August) will be led by a junior consultant and mainly consist of an analysis of the programme logic and portfolio, a mapping of key stakeholders and an inventory of relevant data and resources for the evaluation i.e., tasks (i) to (iii) above. The second phase (September-October) will be led by the senior consultant and mainly consist of the preparation of the conceptual framework and proposed design for the evaluation i.e., tasks (iv) to (vii) above.

The team will work under the overall supervision and responsibility of the OED evaluation officer responsible for the S04 Evaluation. The team will be offered full-time contracts at standard FAO consultancy rates.

Team members should not have been involved in the design or implementation of FAO interventions under evaluation, and will be required to sign a conflict of interest declaration.

Professional qualifications

Senior evaluation consultant

- At least seven years of relevant experience in development evaluation.
- Recent experience conducting evaluability assessments for or designing and conducting complex evaluations.
- Excellent knowledge of evaluation methodology.
- Proven communication, facilitation and writing skills
- Excellent knowledge of English (oral and in writing).
- Work experience in/on value chains, agro-food systems and/or private sector in developing countries will be a strong asset.

Junior evaluation consultant

- At least one year of relevant experience in development evaluation.
- Recent experience in supporting the conduct of or undertaking analysis for complex evaluations.
- Excellent knowledge of English (oral and in writing).
- Work experience in/on value chains, agro-food systems and/or private sector in developing countries will be an asset.

Application process

Interested candidates may send a cover letter and their Personal Profile Form (PPF³) outlining their competencies for undertaking this task to the email address: Opportunities-Eval@fao.org using the subject heading "SO4 Evaluability Assessment" no later than **31 May 2015**.

³ In order to prepare a PPF, you must first register on the FAO iRecruitment site by clicking on the following link: <http://www.fao.org/employment/irecruitment-access/en/> Please ensure that the information in the PPF is accurate and complete including employment record, academic qualifications and language skills.