

CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST
Evaluation of FAO's Regional and Sub-regional Offices in the Near East
Team members

Background

The FAO Office of Evaluation has been requested by the FAO Programme Committee to undertake an Evaluation of FAO's Regional and Sub-regional Offices in the Near East. The evaluation is planned to take place in early 2010. This will be the first-ever in-depth evaluation devoted exclusively to the work of FAO's regional and sub-regional offices.

The FAO Regional Office for the Near East (RNE) in Cairo serves twenty Member nations¹. The principal function of the Regional Office is the overall identification, planning and implementation of FAO's priority activities in the Region. It is charged with the provision of technical assistance and policy advice to Governments in the region, as well as to collect, analyze and disseminate information on food and agriculture. RNE also plays an active role in promoting South-South Co-operation within the region, organizing workshops, seminars and networks at regional and/or sub-regional levels and serving as a secretariat for some intergovernmental regional bodies. For information about the activities of RNE, see http://www.fao.org/world/Regional/RNE/index_en.htm. The Sub-regional Office for North Africa (SNE) in Tunis serves five countries². Under the Regional Office in Cairo, it is primarily responsible for the overall planning of FAO activities in the sub-region (see http://www.fao.org/world/subregional/snea/index_fr.htm).

The FAO Office of Evaluation is searching for independent consultants to serve as evaluation team members in the fields of:

- Policy and institutional Aspects of Food Security, Trade and Rural Development;
- Water use and management, with focus on small scale irrigation;
- Crops, with special focus on plant protection;
- Livestock, with special focus on rangelands management;
- Fisheries and aquaculture; and,
- Forestry.

Candidates should not have been holder of any assignment for FAO in the Near East in the last five years and will be required to sign the Declaration of Interest as per the UNEG Code of Conduct.

¹ Algeria, Bahrain, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi, Arabia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, and Yemen.

² Algeria, Libya, Morocco, Mauritania and Tunisia

The Evaluation will take place over a period of approximately 6 weeks, tentatively planned for January-March 2010.

Essential qualifications

- At least 10 to 15 years experience and an established international reputation in their fields of expertise (see above);
- Significant work experience in the Near East in the last ten years;
- Experience of complex evaluations;
- Knowledge of the UN system (especially FAO);
- Excellent communication skills in English (Arabic and also French would be desirable).

Application process

- Interested candidates should mention the field of expertise relevant to their experience
- Interested candidates should send their application by 31 October 2009, to Near-East-evaluation@fao.org. Please specify “Near East evaluation-team members” in the email subject line.
- Applications should be composed of the candidate’s FAO Personal History Form (available at http://www.fao.org/VA/vac_en.htm) and of a detailed Curriculum Vitae and should include:
 - Information on sex, age and nationality;
 - Expected daily fee rate: FAO pays seven days per week while on mission. Candidates will be required to provide evidence of rates for previous employment;
 - Availability from January 2010.

Only short-listed candidates will be contacted