



Issued on: 12 November 2012

Deadline For Application: 11 December 2012

POSITION TITLE:	Technical Officer (Soil and Water)	GRADE LEVEL:	P-4
		DUTY STATION:	Vienna, Austria
ORGANIZATIONAL UNIT:	Joint FAO/IAEA Division of Nuclear Techniques in Food and Agriculture (AGE) Agriculture and Consumer Protection Department (AG)	DURATION *:	Fixed Term (2 years)
		POST CODE/N°:	C/0054992
		CCOG CODE:	1H02

**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**

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Under the overall supervision of the Director, AGE and the general supervision of the team leader on soil and water management and crop nutrition for sustainable crop production intensification, the incumbent will contribute to FAO's Strategic Objectives on sustainable crop production intensification. The incumbent will be a team member of the Soil and Water Management Laboratory, AGE and provide technical support to national programmes in the assessment and development of agricultural water management practices to ensure sustainable agriculture in the face of climate change and variability and to enhance the conservation of natural resources and their ecosystem services. In particular, the incumbent will:

- provide technical advice to FAO Member States on the assessment and development of soil and water management practices for sustainable agriculture;
- undertake applied and adaptive research and propose improvements in agricultural water management as well as develop comprehensive water management tools and technological packages for adoption in Member States;
- manage projects related to soil water management using isotopic/nuclear techniques as well as conventional approaches;
- conduct multidisciplinary research and development projects as well as participate in the capacity building framework (e.g. fellowship trainings, national, regional and international workshops) that provides comprehensive information on soil-water-nutrient-plant interactions as well as information on sustainable intensification of cropping and livestock production;
- plan, organize and conduct training workshops on enhancement of water productivity and efficiency in agriculture as well as promotion of the ecosystem services of soil and water resources;
- review technical documents and develop training materials on isotopic and nuclear techniques relating to the evaluation of soil quality, soil fertility and soil degradation for improving crop productivity and crop nutrition and minimizing impacts of land uses on the soils' ecosystem services;
- provide scientific and technical inputs to the policy and standards development of the Joint FAO/IAEA Division programme on sustainable soil and land management;
- perform other related duties as required.

*** This Vacancy Announcement cancels and supersedes Vacancy Announcement No. 2572-AGE. Applicants who applied to VA 2572-AGE must apply to the present vacancy in iRecruitment in order to be considered.**

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

Candidates should meet the following:

- Advanced university degree in soil science or agricultural water management with a first degree in agricultural science
- Seven years of relevant experience in conducting laboratory experiments and field studies to investigate soil and water management factors that influence water use efficiency and productivity in cropping and livestock production systems, including in-depth knowledge of the principles and practices of the use of nuclear and isotopic techniques in soil and water. Management
- Working knowledge of English, French or Spanish and limited knowledge of one of the other two, or one of the other official languages of the Organization

SELECTION CRITERIA

Candidates will be assessed against the following:

- Extent of experience in the provision of technical advice in soil conservation and soil fertility management across a range of production systems, including conservation agriculture and cropping and livestock production, especially in developing countries
- Ability to formulate and conduct laboratory and field projects, analyse technical and scientific information and to write clearly and succinctly laboratory reports, technical manuals and guidelines, training materials and impart information succinctly at 'training the trainers' workshops and seminars
- Extent of knowledge of agricultural production systems in developing countries with expertise in the use of isotopic and nuclear techniques to investigate soil-water-plant-nutrient interactions an added advantage
- Proven track record in quality research in agricultural water management and related disciplines using nuclear techniques as one of research tools to assess the effectiveness of different farm management practices on water productivity and efficiency in cropping or livestock production systems

- Strong interpersonal skills to deal effectively with internal and external stakeholders, and proven ability to work effectively in a multidisciplinary team
- Extent of experience in organizing, planning and executing national, regional and international training workshops for Member States in the SWMCN Laboratory and laboratories in Member States

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 extension of appointments**

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/>

To apply: visit the iRecruitment website at

<http://www.fao.org/employment/irecruitment-access/en/>

and complete the on-line application

In order for your application to be properly evaluated, please ensure that all sections of the on-line application are completed.

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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