



Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

PROFESSIONAL VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT N°: IRC2966

Issued on: **31 July 2015**

Deadline For Application: **21 August 2015**

POSITION TITLE:	Senior Economist (Food Security Assessment and Early Warning)	GRADE LEVEL:	P-5
ORGANIZATIONAL UNIT:	Trade and Markets Division, EST Economic and Social Development Department, ES	DUTY STATION:	Rome, Italy
		DURATION *:	Fixed-term: 2 years
		POST NUMBER:	0089176
		CCOG CODE:	1E02

The length of appointment for internal FAO candidates will be established in accordance with applicable policies pertaining to the extension of appointments

Qualified female applicants and qualified nationals of non-and under-represented member countries are encouraged to apply.

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.

Organizational Setting

The Trade and Markets Division monitors and analyses trends in international, regional and national agricultural commodity markets, collecting and disseminating comprehensive market and policy information concerning the major traded commodities and those important to food security. It also undertakes forward looking outlook studies. The Division analyses global issues that affect agricultural trade, including policy analysis of trade measures and agreements, and provides technical support and capacity building to member states in all these areas. Through its Global Information and Early Warning Service, the Division is also responsible for FAO's early warnings on food shortfalls. The Division houses the secretariats of the Committee on Commodity Problems (CCP), nine Intergovernmental Commodity Groups (IGGs) and the Agricultural Market Information System (AMIS).

The post is located in the Group managing the Global Information and Early Warning System (GIEWS).

Reporting Lines

The Senior Economist reports to the Director, Trade and Markets Division (EST).

Technical Focus

Under the overall guidance of the Director, Trade and Markets Division the incumbent will lead and coordinate activities undertaken by the Group managing the Global Information and Early Warning System (GIEWS) in monitoring food security at regional and country levels and alerting governments and the international community to impending critical food insecurity situation

Key Results

Leadership and conceptual thinking for the development and implementation of comprehensive technical, statistical and/or analytical frameworks to support the programme of work and related products, projects and services in accordance with the FAO Strategic Framework

Key Functions

- Plans, manages, or leads highly specialized or multi-disciplinary teams, leads, coordinates, and/or participates on Organization-wide, cross-Departmental committees, project teams, and working groups, and/or provides technical leadership/secretariat services on technical networks and/or international technical policy and standard setting bodies.
- Analyses global and country specific requirements as well as agricultural, economic, social, environmental factors to provide critical input into the FAO Strategic Framework, Programme of Work as well as Detailed Work Plans and the supporting budgets and/or resourcing strategies.
- Implements and monitors work programmes involving the conception and development of comprehensive statistical and/or analytical frameworks including early warning, medium and long term plans and strategies, leading edge tools, methods, systems and databases, critical indicators, and/or policy models, etc.
- Oversees and reviews data collection, validation, analysis and reporting activities to support the development of technical standards, international instruments, innovation, FAO flagship publications/yearbooks, and/or on-going programme development as well as technical and/or policy advisory services.
- Provides technical and policy advice to Member Countries and technical support to decentralized offices in the development and implementation of their programmes of work.
- Plans, organizes and participates in capacity development activities involving the provision of advice, technical assistance projects, training workshops, seminars, and meetings as well as oversees the development of related materials, on-line tools and information kits.
- Represents the Organization at international/inter-governmental meetings and conferences, advocates strategic partnerships, best practices, and increased policy dialogue and develops and negotiates effective working relationships/consensus and agreements with international and national partners.
- Leads and/or participates in resource mobilization activities in accordance with the Corporate strategy.

Specific Functions

- Plans and coordinates the work of the regional and thematic GIEWS Teams, overseeing and providing guidance to the

- staff of the Teams;
- Oversees and monitors the preparation and dissemination by the GIEWS Teams of the printed or electronic reports published through GIEWS;
- Oversees and monitors the maintenance and enhancement of GIEWS information databases to support internal analysis and reporting, and ensure their availability as a public good where appropriate, assuring latest technical standards;
- Supports the organization and realization of Crop and Food Security Assessment Missions (CFSMs) to countries facing food difficulties upon Government requests;
- Contributes to the methodological work of GIEWS for monitoring, analysing, early warning and reporting on food security, as well as to the continuous development of the computerized databases of GIEWS;
- Plans, organizes and participates in capacity development at regional and country level for the provision of technical assistance on GIEWS methodologies and tools for food security monitoring and assessment ;
- Advises FAO Representatives on food security monitoring and assessment methods and tools, and maintains close contacts with senior officials of governments, international and bilateral aid agencies and institutions and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs);

CANDIDATES WILL BE ASSESSED AGAINST THE FOLLOWING

Minimum Requirements

- Advanced university degree in economics, agricultural economics, agriculture or a related field
- Ten years of relevant experience in economic analysis and assessment of food security including agricultural markets, trade and policies for basic foods in developing countries
- Working knowledge of English, French or Spanish and limited knowledge of one of the other two or Arabic, Chinese, Russian

Competencies

- Results Focus
- Leading, Engaging and Empowering Others
- Communication
- Partnering and Advocating
- Knowledge Sharing and Continuous Improvement
- Strategic Thinking

Technical/Functional Skills

- Work experience in more than one location or area of work
- Extent of experience and knowledge in monitoring, analysis and assessment of food security at regional and country level for early warning
- Demonstrated ability to undertake economic analysis of production, consumption, stocks, trade, policies and prices of basic food commodities and to prepare analytical reports
- Extent of skills in the use of computer-based tools for food security information management and analysis
- Extent of experience in liaising and establishing collaborative arrangements with national and international organizations in relation to early warning for food security capacity development

Please note that all candidates should adhere to *FAO Values of Commitment to FAO, Respect for All and Integrity and Transparency*.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- All candidates should possess computer/word processing skills.
- Evaluation of qualified candidates may include an assessment exercise which will be followed by a competency-based interview.
- Your application will be screened based on the information provided in your iRecruitment online profile (see “*How to Apply*”). We strongly recommend that you ensure that the information is accurate and complete including employment record, academic qualifications and language skills.
- Please note that FAO will only consider academic credentials or degrees obtained from an educational institution recognised in the IAU/UNESCO list.
- Other similar positions at the same level may be filled from this vacancy notice and the endorsed candidates will be considered for the Employment Roster for a period of 2 years.
- Candidates may be requested to provide performance assessments.

REMUNERATION

A competitive compensation and benefits package is offered. For information on UN salaries, allowances and benefits, click on the following link: http://www.un.org/Depts/OHRM/salaries_allowances/salary.htm

HOW TO APPLY

To apply, visit the iRecruitment website at <http://www.fao.org/employment/irecruitment-access/en/> and complete your online profile. Only applications received through iRecruitment will be considered.

Candidates are requested to attach a letter of motivation to the online profile.

Vacancies will be removed from iRecruitment at 23:59 Central European Time (CET) on the deadline for applications date. We encourage applicants to submit the application well before the deadline date.

If you need help, or have queries, please contact: iRecruitment@fao.org

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