



Issued on: 12 May 2014

Deadline For Application: 9 June 2014

<b>POSITION TITLE:</b>	<b>Agricultural Extension Officer (Systems)</b>	<b>GRADE LEVEL:</b>	<b>P-4</b>
		<b>DUTY STATION:</b>	<b>Rome</b>
<b>ORGANIZATIONAL UNIT:</b>	<b>Research and Extension Unit (DDNR)</b>	<b>DURATION *:</b>	<b>Fixed-term: 2 years</b>
	Office of the Deputy Director-General/Coordinator for Natural Resources (DDN)	<b>POST CODE/N°:</b>	<b>0105295</b>
		<b>CCOG CODE:</b>	<b>1E02</b>

- **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.**

#### DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Research and Extension Unit provides advisory and technical services to FAO members to support the development of agricultural innovation systems. Extension systems and an integrated approach to agricultural research as well as extension are considered key factors for the achievement of a sustainable increase and improvement in the efficiency and efficacy of the provision of services and goods by agricultural producers. Under the supervision of the Chief, DDNR, the incumbent will:

- advise member countries on policy formulation for the establishment, development and management of effective, efficient national agricultural innovation systems, including sustainable funding mechanisms, to increase and improve the provision of goods and services in a sustainable manner; develop new concepts, methodologies, guidelines and indicators for agriculture innovation systems;
- provide advice on the strengthening, revitalization and reform of extension systems, including public, private and civil society rural advisory service providers;
- advocate for reforms and strengthening of extension systems which pay special attention to demand-driven, farmers-led, decentralized and participatory advisory services, and meet the diverse needs of farmers and other rural people, especially women and marginalized groups;
- advise on the establishment of sustainable funding mechanisms for national agricultural innovation systems;
- promote the use of inclusive and participatory approaches to adapt, validate and share innovative practices for sustainable agricultural production;
- promote the innovative use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) to develop and sustain effective functional linkages among national innovation stakeholders with particular emphasis on farmer-extension-research linkages, as well as links to innovation stakeholders such as universities, private sector, NGOs and market actors;
- advise on the identification, formulation and implementation of national, regional and international projects to strengthen capacities in agricultural/rural extension;
- liaise with donors, technical assistance organizations, national, regional and international extension organizations and networks on initiatives and activities to improve extension systems and advisory services;
- organize and coordinate conferences, seminars, workshops and other events on agricultural extension;
- perform other related duties as required.

#### MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

Candidates should meet the following:

- Advanced university degree in agriculture, agricultural economics, extension, adult education, rural sociology or related fields
- Seven years of relevant experience in the planning and execution of agricultural/rural extension/advisory programmes and activities. Experience in design and implementation of projects related to strengthening, reform and revitalization of extension/advisory services, preferably in developing countries
- Working knowledge of English, French or Spanish and limited knowledge of one of the other two or Arabic, Chinese or Russian

#### SELECTION CRITERIA

Candidates will be assessed against the following:

- Work experience in more than one location or area of work, particularly in field positions is desirable
- Relevance and extent of experience in advisory capacity at national and international levels in the fields of innovation, extension, technology development and dissemination or closely related fields
- A proven record of work related to the design and implementation of projects related to strengthening, reform and revitalization of extension/advisory services in developing countries.
- Extent of knowledge and experience in the use of ICTs in support of linkages among extension stakeholders and especially with research institutions and farmer groups.
- Ability to plan, organize and supervise the work of others
- Working knowledge of English and French or Spanish is an asset

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**

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## 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/>

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## HOW TO APPLY

- To apply, visit the iRecruitment website at <http://www.fao.org/employment/irecruitment-access/en/> and complete the online application. 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.

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

If you need help, or have queries, please contact: [iRecruitment@fao.org](mailto:iRecruitment@fao.org)

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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