



Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Professional Vacancy Announcement No: IRC3512

Issued on: 4 August 2016

Deadline For Application: 1 September 2016

Position Title:	POLICY OFFICER	Grade Level:	P-4.
		Duty Station:	DS,SIERRA ,FREETOWN
Organizational Unit:	FRSIL	Duration *:	Fixed term: two years with possibility of extension.
		Post Number:	2005973
		CCOG Code:	1L09

* 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 main aim of the FAO country offices, which are headed by an FAO Representative, is to assist governments to develop policies, programmes and projects to achieve food security and to reduce hunger and malnutrition, to help develop the agricultural, fisheries and forestry sectors, and to use their environmental and natural resources in a sustainable manner

Food and Nutrition Security Impact, Resilience, Sustainability and Transformation (FIRST) is a FAO and the European Union partnership programme with the purpose of providing a policy assistance mechanism for improved food security and nutrition and sustainable agriculture. FIRST is designed to strengthen the enabling environment for food security and nutrition and sustainable agriculture in a number of selected priority countries. FIRST will be embedded within the FAO's programme management and coordination structure. It will contribute directly to the food security, nutrition and sustainable agriculture policy and governance related results envisioned under FAO Strategic Objectives 1 and 2.

The Policy Officer will work in close collaboration with the relevant FAO office, Government counterparts, the EU Delegation, regional organizations and other relevant stakeholders in the country and in the region (e.g. the AGIR ' Global Alliance for Resilience Technical Unit)

Reporting Lines

The Policy Officer (FIRST Programme) reports to the FAO Representative and receives guidance on technical issues from FIRST Manager (FAO HQ).

Technical Focus

Provides leadership, guidance and operational support for results-based policy assistance, governance, capacity development and facilitates policy dialogue around food security, nutrition and sustainable agriculture.

Key Results

Development and implementation of coherent, integrated and effective policy assistance and governance work supporting member states at country level.

Key Functions

- Provides technical and policy advice and/or support to the Government and relevant stakeholders in the development and implementation of their policies and programmes for improved food security, nutrition and sustainable agriculture;
- Advocates strategic partnerships, best practices, and policy dialogue in support of enhanced policies and governance for food, nutrition security and sustainable agriculture;
- Plans, organizes and participates in capacity development plans and activities involving the provision of technical advice and assistance, and oversees the development of related materials;
- Interacts with UN Regional and Country teams to improve cross-sectoral policies and strategies concerning food security, nutrition and sustainable agriculture;
- Analyses global and country specific requirements, organizes and leads an in-depth assessment of the policy and institutional framework of food security, nutrition and sustainable agriculture and identifies areas for improvements;

- Organizes and participates relevant meetings, workshops, seminars and conferences, advocates strategic partnerships, best practices, and increase policy dialogue and develop and negotiate effective collaboration;
- Prepares reports to FAO, the European Union and the Government on progress achievement and issues related to FIRST implementation;
- Designs and participates in resource mobilization activities.

Specific Functions

- Conducts policy analyses and assists the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Food Security (MAFFS) to design new evidence-based food security strategies and agriculture policies;
- Analyses and reviews the performance of the agricultural sector, especially in terms of poverty reduction and food and nutrition security, in order to identify issues and challenges to be addressed;
- Improves linkages and supports the coordination of activities between MAFFS, the SUN secretariat and the UN Support Group on Nutrition (FAO, WHO, WFP, UNICEF);
- Enhances consultation between MAFFS and other ministries/government agencies (e.g. Ministry of Health and Sanitation, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Land and Country Planning), the private sector and other stakeholders (civil society);
- Supports the capacity development of the Planning, Evaluation, Monitoring and Statistic Division (PEMSD);
- Provides policy support for implementing the two key initiatives of the Presidential Post Ebola Recovery Programme: (i) Increasing Productivity and Production and (ii) Enhancing Commercialization of Agriculture.

CANDIDATES WILL BE ASSESSED AGAINST THE FOLLOWING

Minimum Requirements

- Advanced university degree in food security/nutrition and agricultural economics, economic development, or a related field
- Seven years of relevant experience in policy analysis, assistance and advice related to food and nutrition security and/or sustainable agriculture policy
- Working knowledge of English

Competencies

- Results Focus
- Teamwork
- Communication
- Building Effective Relationships
- Knowledge Sharing and Continuous Improvement

Technical/Functional Skills

- Work experience in more than one location or area of work, particularly in field positions is desirable
- Proven experience in strategic and/or development planning, multi stakeholder and economic analysis
- Extent and relevance of experience in coordination, negotiation, policy analysis and provision of evidence-based policy assistance related to food security, nutrition and sustainable agriculture
- Extent and relevance of experience in resource mobilization

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.
- 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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