



PROFESSIONAL VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Reference Code: Ref. n.: 51/2022/WATDEV-EXP/Coop.Ita.

Date of publication: 23/05/2022

Deadline for application: 22/06/2022

Position: *International expert*

Job Type: *Consultant (non-permanent contract)*

Profile: *Technical Country-based Officer*

Duty station: *Nairobi (Kenya), with frequent travels in Ethiopia and Sudan.*

Duration of assignment: *42 months.*

Starting period: *at the end of the recruitment process*

PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION

The project “**WATDEV** Climate-Smart **WAT**er Management and Sustainable **DE**velopment for Food and Agriculture in East Africa” (hereafter referred to as “the Project”), financed by the DG International Partnerships (INTPA) of the European Union (EU) under the EU initiative on “Climate-relevant Development Smart Innovation through Research in Agriculture in developing countries – **DeSIRA**” and implemented by the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS) in cooperation with CIHEAM Bari (Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Bari).

In line with the DeSIRA Initiative the WATDEV project aims to develop an in-depth understanding of small to large-scale water and agricultural resource dynamics and management and local communities’ resilience to climate change through innovative research, modelling, and capacity building approaches. Furthermore, WATDEV will wherever relevant, engage to assess the impacts and changes/adaptations of these technological innovations on water-energy and agricultural resources to support accounting, environmental, socio-economics and institutional sustainability.

WATDEV will extract lessons from previous experiences in water resources best management

practices (BMP) and will match them with specific situations in study areas located in Egypt, Sudan, Ethiopia, and Kenya. The project will integrate knowledge already available from recent and ongoing research and operational projects and will upscale and out scale the BMPs through databases, modelling, technologies, and operational frameworks all included in a **water planning/management toolbox available for Researchers and Institutions** that will be one of the main deliverables and legacies of the project.

The overall objective of WATDEV is: Sustainability of agricultural water management and resilience of agro-ecosystems to climate change in East Africa and Egypt

Specific objective 1: National Ministries and Research Institutions improve their knowledge and management on water in agriculture.

Specific objective 2: Farmers and local actors implement innovative/sustainable solutions and skills on water management.

The European Union, represented by the European Commission (the “**Contracting Authority**”) or the first counterparty and the The Italian Agency for Development Co-operation (AICS) hereinafter recognised as the “**Organisation**”, CIHEAM Bari hereinafter recognised as the “**Party**” have agreed to provide a financial contribution to finance the implementation of the WATDEV project. This Agreement establishes the rules for the implementation and for the payment of the EU Contribution, and defines the relations between the Organisation, the Contracting Authority, and the Party.

CIHEAM Bari, as Party of this agreement, will be engaged in scientific, technical, research, modelling and management activities assigned by the project and will play a crucial role in towards the fulfilment and accomplishment of the project’s deliverables and milestones. To this end, CIHEAM Bari will engage in active and frequent communication with project partners, especially those in Africa, to lead, monitor and coordinate all the project’s activities according to the agreed timeline and tasks allocated to each partner. By supporting improved water management in agriculture and sustainable land management, the project will have a direct impact on improving crop yields and livelihoods of local population in the study areas and beyond.

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Duty station: Nairobi, Kenya.

Contract and Remuneration: salary, benefits and other conditions are offered under the CIHEAM Bari rules and regulations, in particular, will be determined based on professional seniority, specific professional qualification and level of competence concerning the responsibilities and specific tasks that the successful candidate will be required to perform.

Duration: 42 months – including a three-month probation period – due to availability of funds and satisfactory performance.

Expected start of employment: at the end of the recruitment process.

1. KEY FUNCTIONS

Technical Country-based Officer

Under the overall supervision of AICS HQ in Rome and the CIHEAM Bari, the Officer supports the correct implementation of the assigned activities and reporting of the Project's implementation.

In particular, she/he will perform the following tasks:

1. Help with the implementation and follow up of the work plan.
2. Support the preparation of the progress and financial reporting of CIHEAM Bari.
3. Help local partners in preparing the financial reporting.
4. Follow up and monitor the project's performance of the planned activities of the project partners.
5. Intervene to solve delays and shortcomings in project outcomes.
6. Support and supervise planned events and follow up on their completion according to the approved work plan.
7. Provide support to technical and scientific reporting.
8. Contribute to maintaining communication between all project partners, including the liaison with CIHEAM Bari.
9. Check and monitor the outcomes of field missions of all project partners.
10. Performs other duties as required.

2. REQUIREMENTS

2.1 Essential Requirements:

Candidates will be considered eligible for selection based on the following essential requirements, to be fulfilled by the deadline for applications:

- 2.1.1 High school degree (with relevant work experience in project topics) or University degree in International Relations or related topics.
- 2.1.2 Proven previous experiences in the project's countries.
- 2.1.3 Fluency in written and spoken English (C1 Level - Common European Framework of Reference).
- 2.1.4 Fluency in written and spoken Italian.
- 2.1.5 Proficiency in the use of Microsoft Office suite.

2.2 Preferred requirements:

- 2.2.1 Previous working experience in Sub Sharan Africa.
- 2.2.2 Proven experience in coordinating and managing EU or other donor-funded projects.
- 2.2.3 Sound knowledge of rules, regulations and procedures in use by the E.U. (e.g. reporting obligations; PRAG) in developing countries with international organisations.
- 2.2.4 Familiar with Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) procedures implemented by DeSIRA Initiative for project management.

Before submitting their application, candidates should assess whether they fulfil all the essential requirements specified in this vacancy notice. The curriculum vitae should clearly state the start and end dates of all previous jobs and indication of whether they were full- or part-time. Details of any professional experience, training, research, or studies must be provided in the application. Upon request, candidates must provide supporting documentation clearly indicating the duration and nature of those experiences.

3. APPLICATION PROCEDURE

All interested applicants shall submit the application, duly dated, and signed, in pdf format, to the following email address cv@iamb.it.

The application should include:

- Signed Motivation letter (maximum 1 page)
- Signed Curriculum vitae in English (Europass format)
- Copy of valid passport
- Personal data treatment statement

Applications deadline is 23:59 on 22/06/2022. Applicants are requested to specify the following reference code in the email subject:

Ref. n.: 51/2022/WATDEV-EXP/Coop.Ita. "Application for Technical Country-based Officer".

Applications without the above reference will be excluded from the selection.

CIHEAM Bari is committed to achieving gender balance staff. Qualified female applicants are encouraged to apply for these positions.

The applicants should also provide a telephone number and an email address for communications and notify CIHEAM Bari of any change that occurred after submitting the application.

Please note that only complete applications received within the deadline will be accepted and considered.

4. EXCLUSION FROM SELECTION PROCEDURES

Applications containing the following gaps will not be considered:

- Applications lacking any of the essential eligibility requirements.
- Applications received after the deadline stated in this announcement.
- Application documents not signed.
- Application lacking of any essential document as per application procedure.

5. EVALUATION OF APPLICATIONS

Once the terms of validity of the notice have elapsed, CIHEAM Bari assesses the applications' admissibility regarding the presence of the essential requirements and the absence of causes for exclusion.

Subsequently, the CIHEAM Bari appoints a Commission, which meets the candidates' requirements for autonomy and impartiality. The Commission assesses the merits of applications by assigning a maximum overall score of 100 points according to the following criteria:

5.1 Qualifications (Max 40 points)

Assessment of education, professional experience and competencies, and possession of preferred requirements as indicated in the documentation submitted by the candidate will be carried out according to the below parameters:

- Education – up to 10 points
- Language skills – up to 10 points
- Assessment of professional experiences – up to 20 points.

5.2 Interview (Max 60 points)

Only candidates scoring a minimum of 30 points under Essential and Preferred Requirements (comprised of art. 2.1.1 to art. 2.2.3) will be included in the shortlist and invited for an interview.

The interview will take place via video conference (e.g., Skype).

The interview shall be held in the languages indicated in the call for applications. It shall assess the applicant's knowledge and experience, her or his ability to carry out the task in question, the

language skills required, and any other skills deemed necessary to assess the candidate's profile with the post to be filled. The interview notice is sent by email to the address indicated by the candidate at the time of application. Applicants shall not be entitled to reimbursement of any costs incurred in connection with the interview.

6. RESULTS OF THE SELECTION

The candidate with the highest score in the ranking is declared the winner and will be informed accordingly. In case of a decline by the winning candidate or early termination of the contract, the office reserves the right to appoint another candidate from the ranking list - if the necessary financial resources are available.

In the event of equal scoring, the youngest candidate will be preferred.

The ranking list is published on the CIHEAM Bari website.

Due to essential service reasons, the winner of this selection notice must take up service in Kenya no later than 1 month from the publication of the ranking on the CIHEAM Bari websites. If the availability is not granted, the office reserves the right to appoint another candidate from the ranking list.

7. PERSONAL DATA TREATMENT

Applicants are aware that submitting their applications implies consensus to treat and manage their personal data (including sensitive ones). This data will be exclusively collected and managed by the CIHEAM Bari personnel, who is in charge of storing and using the application dossier.

In particular, CIHEAM Bari is committed to managing personal data in conformity with privacy obligations issued last 5 July 2019 ("Security of the Information and Personal Data Protection Policy"), inspired by the EU Regulation 679/2016 – "General Data Protection Regulation" including further modifications/amendments.

8. SAFEGUARD CLAUSES

CIHEAM Bari reserves the right to proceed with the assignment's formalisation as soon as the administrative-financial procedure for entrusting the fund is completed.

CIHEAM Bari may not go through the assignment procedure for opportunity reasons discretionally evaluated. This assignment is temporarily only, submitted to periodically monitoring and shall not consist of a permanent job, neither within CIHEAM Bari nor within the project itself.

In the event of force majeure forcing the coordinator to return to Italy, the remuneration will be commensurate accordingly.