



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Terms of Reference for Consultant /PSA

Minimum number of years of relevant experience required: 1yr 5yrs 12+yrs

Job Title: 2 x Research Associates: Adoption of agricultural technologies in Africa	
Division/Department: CGIAR Standing Panel on Impact Assessment and World Bank LSMS-ISA	
Programme/Project Number: SIAC	
Location: Ethiopia / Niger / Mali / Nigeria / Uganda	
Expected Start Date of Assignment: July 2014	Duration: 11 months (220 days) renewable subject to performance
Reports to: Name: Dr James Stevenson Dr Tim Kelley	Title: Agricultural Research Officer Senior Agricultural Research Officer

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF TASK(S) AND OBJECTIVES TO BE ACHIEVED

The CGIAR [Standing Panel on Impact Assessment](#) (SPIA) are recruiting two research associates to be based in Sub-Saharan Africa (hosted by a research center of the CGIAR). SPIA has a mandate for assessing the adoption and impact of agricultural technologies developed by the CGIAR Consortium of centers and research programs. The LSMS-ISA is a World Bank project that collects nationally-representative panel datasets on agriculture in 8 Sub-Saharan African countries.

These exciting Research Associate consultancies are being created for an initial 2-year period with the aim of improving the data collected in the LSMS-ISA panel regarding agricultural technologies. Under the supervision of the SPIA Secretariat (based at FAO in Rome) and the Manager of the LSMS-ISA team (based in Washington DC) these Resesarch Associates are expected to work independently to link the agricultural researchers in the CGIAR system and the economists and statisticians in the LSMS-ISA project and national statistical agencies in designing, testing and integrating specific protocols for uniquely identifying agricultural technologies as part of the LSMS-ISA household survey visits. These data subsequently become freely available global public goods, though there is scope within these terms of reference for analytical work using the data to understand the adoption of agricultural technologies and its impact on various outcomes of interest (e.g productivity, poverty, nutrition etc).

Description of main responsibilities

- Liaise with SPIA Secretariat staff, senior management, and lead scientists from CGIAR centers in Africa to identify technologies for specific LSMS-ISA countries for which we need better data of extent of adoption
- Work with groups of CGIAR agricultural scientists (crop breeders, agronomists, water engineers etc) on determining how specific selected technologies might be uniquely identified
- Working closely with the LSMS team and their local counterparts, develop and field-test protocols for these specific technologies in LSMS-ISA countries. Field-testing will be carried out either in parallel or piggybacked to LSMS-ISA survey operations
- Following the methodological testing, together with the LSMS team and local counterparts, identify specific survey rounds in the various LSMS-ISA countries where it is possible to introduce protocols for improved data collection

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

<p>Expected Outputs:</p> <p>Over the course of the 11 months of the first assignment, each consultant will focus on one (possibly two) country program of the LSMS-ISA</p> <p>1) Consult with SPIA, review the literature and discuss with scientists at relevant CGIAR centers to devise a list of the most relevant agricultural technologies which need better data collection protocols in the eight LSMS-ISA focus countries</p>	<p>Required Completion Date:</p> <p>End Aug 2014</p>
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2) Work with CGIAR researchers to devise protocols that can be incorporated in the LSMS-ISA survey format	End Nov 2014
3) Consult with the national statistical agency and LSMS-ISA colleagues to facilitate the introduction of the new protocols into the national survey	End Dec 2014
4) Implement testing of a range of protocols (1 – 2 countries)	Jan – Dec 2015
5) Write technical report (30 pp + annex) on the protocol development, testing and integration process.	Feb / March 2016
6) Carry out econometric analysis on research questions related to the adoption and impact of agricultural technologies based on the datasets generated, in collaboration with economists in CGIAR centers and LSMS-ISA / SPIA colleagues. Publish research papers.	<i>Ad-hoc</i> , when possible

REQUIRED COMPETENCIES

- Able to work independently, solve problems, network effectively, good inter-personal and communication skills
- Strong analytical skills in agricultural economics / econometrics, preferably with experience of application to panel datasets in STATA
- PhD or Masters (or equivalent) in a relevant subject
- At least 2 years of work experience on projects related to survey design and supervising data collection
- Knowledge of (and preferably experience of working on) African agricultural technologies / farming systems
- Must be willing to travel widely within Sub-Saharan Africa
- Excellent English (both positions) and French (strongly preferred for one of the two positions)

HOW TO APPLY

Interested applicants should send a copy of their CV with a cover letter via email to Ira.Vater@fao.org no later than 9am Monday 17th March 2014.

The duration of the consultancy is for 11 months and may be extended subject to availability of resources and review of incumbent performance. The Research Associate will be hosted by a research center of the CGIAR located in Sub-Saharan Africa and will be under contract with FAO assigned to work on CGIAR affairs.