Policy Officer (Food Systems)

Grade Level: P-4
Duty Station: Chile, Santiago
Duration*: Fixed term: 2 years, with possibility of extension
Post Number: 2000752
CCOG Code: 1.L.09

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 Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean (RLC) is responsible for leading FAO’s response to regional priorities for food security, agriculture and rural development through the identification, planning and implementation of FAO’s priority activities in the region. It ensures a multidisciplinary approach to programmes, identifies priority areas of action for the Organization in the region and, in collaboration with departments and divisions at headquarters, develops, promotes and oversees FAO’s strategic response to regional priorities. RLC also advises on the incorporation of regional priorities into the Organization’s Programme of Work and Budget and implements approved programmes and projects in the region, monitors the level of programme implementation and draws attention to problems and deficiencies. RLC develops and maintains relations with region-wide institutions including the Regional Economic Integration Organizations (REIOs). The Regional Office supports regional policy dialogue on food security, agriculture and rural development issues, facilitates the emergence of regional partnerships, and supports capacity development and resource mobilization for food security, agriculture and rural development in the region.

Reporting Lines
The Policy Officer (Food Systems) reports to the Assistant Director-General (ADG)/Regional Representative (RR), RLC and receives technical guidance of the Senior Officer responsible for Food Systems in the Economic and Social Development Department (ES).

Technical Focus
Strengthen local, national, and regional food systems in Latin America and the Caribbean region through technical and policy support targeted to enhancing food system governance.

Key Results
Development and implementation of coherent, integrated and effective policy assistance and governance work supporting member countries at regional, subregional and country level: i) in accordance with the FAO Strategic Framework and its delivery mechanisms; and ii) in response to new policy assistance requests.

Key Functions
- Supports the work carried out by technical or policy officers from headquarters or out-posted staff in the Decentralized Offices in relation to policy and governance work under FAO’s Strategic Framework;
- advocates strategic partnership, best practices and policy dialogue in support of enhanced governance for food and nutrition security, sustainable agriculture and food systems;
- participates in specialized or multidisciplinary teams, and high-level policy analysis missions or projects, policy networks and/or international policy setting bodies;
- interacts with UN regional and country teams to improve cross-sectorial policies and strategies concerning food and nutrition security and sustainable development;
- supports the analysis by the Regional Office of regional and country-level issues to provide input into the identification of country and regional priorities and requirement;
- designs, implements and monitors regional and subregional policy work programmes and the supporting budgets and/or resourcing strategies;
- plans, organizes and participates in capacity development activities involving the provision of technical advice and assistance, and oversees the development of related materials, on-line tools and information kits;
- contributes to multidisciplinary teams and provides strategic leadership and coherent approach on sustainable
agrifood systems in the region, drawing on corporate and international good practices, frameworks and knowledge, including inclusive agrifood trade, standards for safe food and efficient markets, agro-industry and agrifood chain development, impact finance and investment, food loss and waste reduction, and policy and market incentives;

• supports countries and the region in achieving results associated with their Country Programming Frameworks, Regional Initiatives and Corporate Strategic Objectives in the area of food systems linked to nutrition;

• provides technical advice on the formulation, implementation, and evaluation of policies and programmes at all levels related to all relevant aspects of agrifood systems, their structure, functions, dynamics and performance against different social, economic and environmental objectives;

• serves as regional focal point in key technical areas and represents the Organization in relevant internal and external meetings;

• builds and maintains networks and partnerships with key government, UN, civil society, private sector and scientific and academic organizations to achieve or enhance results and help to develop their capacities to autonomously undertake research and policy development in these areas;

• contributes to the analysis and understanding of policy, institutional and technical causes and solutions to major trends in the food systems in the region and their implications for nutrition, systematizing, publishing and disseminating this knowledge and contributing to efforts to improve associated data and statistics.

CANDIDATES WILL BE ASSESSED AGAINST THE FOLLOWING

Minimum Requirements
• Advanced university degree in social, economic or environmental sciences related to food systems, agrifood trade, agrifood value chain development, or a related field;

• Seven years of relevant experience in agrifood systems governance and regulation, agrifood trade and national and local distribution systems, consumer awareness, nutrition sensitive agrifood systems, or related area;

• Working knowledge of Spanish and limited 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
• Relevance and level of academic background
• Relevant work experience developing and leading policy and research, and/or capacity development, and/or technical assistance programmes related to agrifood systems
• Extent and relevance of experience in analysing food systems and related issues at local, national and regional levels, including through publications
• Extent and relevance of experience in the integration of food systems into agricultural and health policies and programmes including developing country experience
• Familiarity with FAO's partner institutions (UN, NGOs, donors) is an asset
• Ability to mobilize resources
• Working knowledge of English and/or limited knowledge of French is an asset

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 recognized 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 two 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 Web site 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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