



Vacancy Announcement

Consultant-(CAADP Pillar IV Technical Assistant)

The Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA) is the apex organization for agricultural research for development in Africa. As the lead institution for NEPAD's Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) pillar IV, which encompasses agricultural research and technology dissemination and adoption, FARA seeks to build the capacity for agricultural innovation and to make agriculture the continent's engine for economic growth. FARA works closely with sub-regional organisations (SROs) and national agricultural research and extension systems to ensure effective implementation of CAADP activities. FARA's mission is to create broad-based improvements in agricultural productivity, competitiveness and markets by supporting Africa's sub-regional organisations in strengthening capacity for agricultural innovation. FARA's activities are undertaken through its Networking Support Functions.

Networking Support Function-1 is responsible for advocacy and resource mobilization on behalf of the Forum's stakeholders and coordinates the Secretariat's lead role in the implementation of CAADP Pillar IV. The unit supports the integration of FAAP principles and the inclusion of Pillar IV issues in agriculture sector investment programmes developed within the CAADP framework as well as assisting with the evolution and reform of national agricultural research systems at sub-regional and national levels. NSF-1 leads the process to promote the awareness of key players in Pillar IV implementation.

FARA is seeking to recruit a **Consultant** for **six-months** to provide technical support to assist with the expected increased activity in Pillar IV implementation in 2010.

The consultant will work with the Director, Networking Support Function 1 and the NSF1 team in achieving the goals of the Pillar IV process.

The successful candidate, shall, *inter alia*, undertake the following:

- Track progress in the implementation of Pillar IV at the sub-regional and national levels in accordance with NSF-1 Work Plan and provide monthly progress reports to the Director;
- Assist in compilation of NSF reports on Pillar IV implementation;
- Assist with the organization of workshops and meetings;
- Conduct research and contribute to maintaining and disseminating an up-to-date knowledge of the most recent trends and emerging advocacy and institutional issues that affect African agriculture in general, and the poor and vulnerable food producers and consumers in particular;
- Maintain an up-to-date donor intelligence (donor priorities, policies and opportunities) database on agricultural research that will support Forum members in their resource mobilization efforts;
- Maintain contact with FARA stakeholders and key NSF 1 constituents and partners;
- Contribute to the development of progress reports of NSF1;
- Work with NSF staff, development partners and other external partners to facilitate the flow of information, evaluation and learning for maximum impact;
- Any other duties as may be assigned by the NSF1 Director and FARA management;

Requirements:

The Consultant will not have less than 2 years work experience in research, international technology and/or evaluating information. Educational and professional qualifications will include:

- Masters of Science degree in Agricultural Economics, Natural Resource Management, agricultural education and extension or a related field with a minimum of 2 years post graduate experience in research in an International Organization.
- Must have good knowledge of agricultural research issues and the contribution of agricultural research to food security and poverty reduction.
- Excellent research skills demonstrated in previous jobs;
- Work experience on management of donor funded projects [particularly projects funded by multilateral agencies will be an added advantage].
- Proven track record in working effectively within multidisciplinary teams.

The candidate is expected to have an understanding of FARA, CAADP and Pillar IV and the issues, challenges and constraints of Pillar IV implementation that will guide him/her to track the progress of Pillar IV implementation in selected countries.

The candidate must be able to read and absorb large and complex documents and make the appropriate conclusion that will contribute to reviews of the agriculture sector as well as monitoring of performance of CAADP Pillar IV.

Compensation

This consultancy is for 6 months. Terms are negotiable based on history and experience.

Applications

Please send (via e-mail) comprehensive curriculum vitae, together with the names, addresses, e-mail addresses, telephone and fax numbers of three referees to:

Dr. Monty P. Jones, Executive Director, FARA, PMB CT 173, Cantonments, Accra, Ghana; Email: ed@fara-africa.org ; Fax: +233 21 773676. Applications will be accepted up to **28th January 2010**

For more information about FARA, this recruitment and Networking Support Function 1, please visit <http://www.fara-africa.org>

FARA is an equal opportunity employer and encourages applications from women.