



PROFESSIONAL VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Reference Code: **Ref. n.: 39/2021/WATDEV-EXP/Coop.Ita.**

Date of publication: 21/12/2021

Deadline for application: 10/01/2022

Position: International expert

Job Type: Water management and modelling expert.

Duty station: Valenzano (Italy).

Duration of assignment: 48 months.

Starting period: at the end of the recruitment process

Profile: Water management and modelling expert

For the project " **WATDEV** Climate Smart **WATER** Management and Sustainable **DEVELOPMENT** 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.

PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION

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 outscale the BMPs through databases, modeling, 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 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 an 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: Valenzano, Italy.

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: 48 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

Water management and modelling expert

Under the overall supervision of the CIHEAM Bari, the Water management and modelling expert will follow up and assist in the development of the water planning/management toolbox available for Researchers and Institutions and in harmonisation of the models inside the toolbox.

The expert will assist to develop the project's toolbox that will allow exploring different "what-if" scenarios through participatory exercises such as participatory scenario development, thus helping to build common concepts among stakeholders with different views and possibly conflicting interests. The Toolbox will then - necessarily - embed the thematic models, indicators and databases for plan simulation. The ensemble of datasets, models, a visualization that will be offered through the Toolbox will be used for the integrated assessment of plausible impact scenarios, for assessing the potential effects of resource development and for gaining insight on the trade-offs among alternative management options and strategies. Beyond progress in integrating models of different disciplines, the use of a "soft" system within the Toolbox platform is expected to add value towards its wider implementation in decision-making processes, as it will facilitate the understanding of complex processes affecting the natural resource base and the way that these are perceived and valued by different stakeholders. In addition to supporting participatory processes, the toolbox itself should be designed with significant involvement of East African partners and local actors to ensure that the delivered tool can respond to local challenges and needs, and is implemented in a way that ensures its uptake and the continuation of its use well after the end of WATDEV.

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

1. Develop a toolbox based on the inventory of operational requirements of relevant local stakeholders
2. Train the relevant local stakeholders in the use of the toolbox
3. Provide an inventory of existing planning tools.
4. Technical validation of the WATDEV toolbox
5. Guidelines for using the toolbox for decision-making
6. Presenting the models and module combinations inside the toolbox to relevant audiences and solicit feedback on operational requirements
7. Demonstration of integrated models and solicit feedback on operational requirements, including customizability
8. 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 university degree in agricultural, civil engineering and/or hydrological disciplines with a strong focus on modelling of water, land and natural resources management (level 6 European

Qualification Framework E.Q.F.)

2.1.2 Proven skills in hydrological modelling, irrigation, water management and engineering, watershed hydrology, rainfall and watershed modelling

2.1.3 Proven record of publications in water management, geo-informatics, hydrogeology, agriculture and environmental engineering, water science and agricultural economics with a score of at least more than 10 at Research gate

2.1.4 Working experience with national or international research institutions.

2.1.5 Fluency in written and spoken English (C1 Level - Common European Framework of Reference);

2.1.6 Excellent proficiency in the use modelling and Geographic Information Systems (GIS)

2.1.7 Familiar with toolbox creation for decision making and water/land use planning.

2.2 Preferred requirements:

2.2.1. Advanced training (PhD) in the fields of relevance requirements indicated in point 2.1.1

2.2.2 Knowledge of a native African language would be an asset.

Before submitting their application, candidates should assess whether they fulfil all the essential requirements specified in this vacancy notice. Start and end dates of all previous jobs and indication on whether they were full- or part-time should be clearly stated in the curriculum vitae. 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:

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

Applicants are requested to specify the following reference code in the email subject:

Ref. n.: 39/2021/WATDEV-EXP/Coop.Ita. "Application for Water management and modelling expert".

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 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, his or her 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 CIHEAM Bari website.

Due to essential service reasons, the winner of this selection notice must take up service in Kenya not later than 1 month from the publication of the ranking on CIHEAM Bari websites. In case 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 submission of their applications implies consensus to treat and manage their personal data (included sensitive ones). This data will be exclusively managed by the CIHEAM Bari personnel who is in charge to store and use of the application dossier.

In particular, CIHEAM Bari is committed to manage personal data in conformity with privacy obligations issued last 5 July 2019 (“Security of the Information and Personal Data Protection Policy”), inspired to 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 on a temporary basis only, submitted to periodically monitoring and shall not consist in 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.