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## PROFESSIONAL VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

### N. 1 PROJECT MANAGER

**PROJECT: “TRIP: Technical Rice Intervention Plan - Promoting sustainable food production and consumption in Egypt through the development of a Technical Rice Intervention Plan”**

**Reference Code:** Ref. n. 04/V/2026

**Date of publication:** 11/03/2026

**Deadline for application:** 11/04/2026

**Position:** Project Manager

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

**Position Type:** Full-time, 12-month contract (including a three-month probation period)

**Duty station:** Cairo (Egypt), with frequent travels to the project sites

**Starting period:** CIHEAM Bari reserves the right to finalise the candidate's appointment to the position only upon completion of the administrative and financial procedure for project funding allocation, following clearances, and ensuring no objections from the competent authorities/institutions.

**Project title:** “TRIP: Promoting sustainable food production and consumption in Egypt through the development of a Technical Rice Intervention Plan”

**Donor:** Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MAECI)

## BACKGROUND

The Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Bari (CIHEAM Bari, Italy) is an intergovernmental organisation engaged in higher education, vocational training, research and cooperation. CIHEAM Bari's mission is to implement cooperation and development projects with Countries and actors of several regions (Mediterranean area; West and East Africa, Middle East; Southeast Asia).

CIHEAM Bari intends to select a Project Manager in the framework of the project "*TRIP: Promoting sustainable food production and consumption in Egypt through the development of a Technical Rice Intervention Plan*" funded by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation.

*TRIP* project builds on the *Egypt-PRIMA Initiative* and aims to establish the technical and institutional foundations for a future large-scale intervention on Egypt's rice value chain. It seeks to promote more sustainable and efficient production models in response to water scarcity and climate change.

The project is structured around three components:

- **R1 – Technical and Territorial Analysis**, to collect and process geospatial agronomic, socio-economic and environmental data and identify the priority intervention area, consolidated in a *Technical Territorial Assessment Report*.
- **R2 – Capacity Building**, including assessment of training needs, delivery of four modules of Training for Trainers for technicians and Ministry officials, development of technical manuals, continuous technical assistance, and an awareness campaign targeting at least 100 rice producers.
- **R3 – Co-design of the Technical Rice Intervention Plan**, resulting in a technical-operational document defining objectives, actions, timelines, technical specifications, indicators and cost estimates for a future intervention.

*TRIP* represents a strategic preparatory phase based on scientific analysis and participatory planning, aimed at identifying scalable and replicable solutions for a structured national intervention on the rice sector.

## TERMS OF REFERENCE

**Duty station:** Cairo (Egypt), with frequent travel to the project's sites.

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

**Project duration:** 12 months.

**Duration of the assignment:** contract of 12 months - including a three-month probation period.

**Expected start of employment:** Appointment is subject to the final approval of project funding, administrative clearances, and the absence of objections from relevant authorities.

**Line Manager:** The position reports directly to the Head of the Cooperation Area of CIHEAM Bari, or a formally appointed delegate.

### 1. KEY FUNCTIONS

During the performance of the assignment, the project manager will constantly interface with the management of CIHEAM Bari and/or with the authorized delegates, as well as with local institutional partners, and will be responsible for:

- Accountability and reporting: Serving as the primary person accountable for achieving the expected results and reporting directly to the Head of the Cooperation Area (specifically the Egypt Geographic Unit).
- Strategic Planning: Planning and scheduling project activities for the entire 12-month duration in strict compliance with the Project document and the approved budget. This includes: human resource requirements (international and local staff); procurement and purchasing in accordance with the CIHEAM Bari PRAG Manual; resources required for the implementation of all project components.

- Operational Management: Managing the necessary administrative authorizations for project implementation by submitting formal requests and planning documentation to the CIHEAM Bari Competent Area and Units.
- Financial Oversight: Monitoring and controlling the use of financial resources and expenditure progress in close collaboration with the Financial Manager at CIHEAM Bari, ensuring full compliance with MAECI (Donor) and CIHEAM Bari procedures.
- External Liaison: Maintaining continuous interaction and technical dialogue with the Donor (MAECI/AICS) and relevant International and Local Authorities (such as the Egyptian Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation) in compliance with the communication protocols established in the project document.
- Partnership Coordination: Coordinating partnership agreements and Memoranda of Understanding (MoU) with local institutional stakeholders involved in the rice value chain assessment.
- Staff Supervision: Supervising and coordinating local technical and administrative staff based in Cairo.
- Reporting and development: Planning and producing all interim and final technical reports using the official tools and templates provided by the CIHEAM Bari
- Institutional Growth: Actively contributing to the drafting of new initiatives and project proposals within the Egyptian context and thematic areas of competence.

## **2. QUALIFICATIONS AND SKILLS REQUIRED**

### **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:

- University degree in Agricultural Sciences or equivalent (Agronomist).
- Proven professional experience of at least 7 years working in project management within international cooperation related to rural development, food security, value chain or sustainable agriculture programmes.
- Proven experience in managing multi-component projects, including capacity building initiatives, conducting assessments, Training of Trainers (ToT) programmes, and implementing communication and outreach activities.
- Experience in planning and managing projects financed by the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation and/or International Organizations.
- Knowledge of the basic principles of project Monitoring and Evaluation, with particular attention to the Result-Based Management (RBM) approach and its operational tools (logical framework, indicators, results and outputs).
- Proficiency in data collection and assessment tools.
- Proficiency in the use of Microsoft Office programme (Word, Excel, Power point).
- Italian nationality.

### **2.2 Languages**

- Italian (Mother Tongue: mandatory).
- English (C1 level required: mandatory).
- Arabic (desirable, but not mandatory requirement).

### **2.3 Personal skills and capacities**

- Leadership skills: ability to guide and motivate team members.
- Communication skills: effective communication with team members, stakeholders, and donors.
- Organizational skills: strong organizational abilities to plan and execute tasks efficiently.
- Time management: efficiently managing project timelines and deadlines.

- Problem-solving skills: addressing challenges and finding solutions effectively.
- Adaptability: being flexible and able to adjust to changing project requirements or circumstances.
- Risk management: identifying and mitigating potential risks to project success.
- Budget management: managing project finances and resources effectively.
- Team building: fostering a positive team environment and promoting collaboration.

#### **2.4 Preferred requirements**

- Regional Expertise: Previous experience as a Project Manager within development cooperation initiatives in Egypt.
- Technical Assessments: Proven professional experience in conducting territorial assessments and/or value chain analyses in the context of international cooperation.
- Sectoral Specialization: Specific expertise in the rice sector or similar cereal value chains.
- Resource Management: Technical skills in agricultural water management, including irrigation systems, water-use efficiency, and water-saving practices (considered a strong asset).
- Project Cycle Management (PCM): In-depth knowledge of methodologies for the formulation, management, and monitoring of international cooperation projects.
- Digital Tools: Working knowledge of Remote Sensing techniques and applications (considered a strong asset).

### **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](mailto:cv@iamb.it)

The application deadline is **11/04/2026**.

Applicants are requested to specify the following reference code in the email subject: ***“Ref. n. 04/V/2026 Application for Project Manager in Egypt”***.

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

The application shall include:

- Motivation letter in English (maximum 1 page, A4, Times New Roman, 12), duly signed.
- Curriculum vitae in English (Euro pass format) duly signed.
- Copy of valid passport.
- Statement *“Information about collecting, storing and processing Personal Data”*, duly signed for approval.

Qualified female applicants are encouraged to apply for this position as CIHEAM Bari aims to ensure an inclusive working environment and is committed to achieving a gender-balanced staff.

Applicants shall also provide a working telephone number and a valid e-mail address for communication purposes and shall timely inform CIHEAM Bari on any relevant changes after submitting their application.

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

Before submitting their application, candidates shall assess whether they fulfil all the essential requirements specified in this vacancy notice. Start and end dates of all previous jobs and indication of whether they were full- or part-time shall be clearly stated in the curriculum vitae. Details of any professional experience, training, research or studies must be provided in the CV. With reference to the "Qualifications and Skills Required" section (2.2 Languages), it is highly recommended to specify the language proficiency level according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). Upon request, candidates must provide supporting documentation clearly reporting the duration and nature of those experiences.

### **4. EXCLUSION FROM SELECTION PROCEDURES**

Applications will not be considered if:

- they do not meet any of the essential eligibility requirements;
- they are received after the deadline reported in this announcement;
- the submitted documents are not duly signed;
- they are missing the necessary documents as required by the application procedure.

## 5. EVALUATION OF APPLICATIONS

Once the terms of validity of the notice have elapsed, CIHEAM Bari assesses the applications' eligibility regarding the presence of the essential requirements and the absence of causes for exclusion. Subsequently, CIHEAM Bari appoints a Commission, which meets the 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 skills, as well as compliance with essential and preferential requirements as indicated in the documentation submitted by the candidate will be conducted according to the following parameters:

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

### 5.2 Interview (Max 60 points)

Only candidates scoring at least 30 points under essential and preferred requirements will be shortlisted and invited for an interview. The interview will be held remotely through video conferencing platforms, such as Skype or Zoom, and conducted in the languages indicated in the application call. It shall assess the applicant's knowledge and experience, ability to carry out the above tasks, the required language skills, and other necessary abilities to determine whether the candidate's profile aligns with the present position. The interview notice will be 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 within the interview process. CIHEAM Bari will assess the candidate according to its rules and Regulations. Such assessment will be based on *intuitus personae* since these assignments fall within intellectual work performance. The assignment will be formalised in accordance with CIHEAM Bari regulations after approval of the CV of the eligible candidate by the CIHEAM Bari Director. An initial three-month probationary period will be granted, after which the appointment may be confirmed or withdrawn.

## 6. RESULTS OF THE SELECTION

The successful candidate is the applicant with the highest score in the total ranking and will be informed accordingly. In the event of withdrawal by the successful candidate or early termination of the contract, the office reserves the right to appoint another candidate from the ranking list – depending on financial resources availability. In the event of equal scores, the youngest candidate will be preferred.

Please note that, if selected, the successful candidate shall provide the following documents:

- Scanned copy of a valid passport (at least 6 months).
- CIHEAM Bari health questionnaire, completed in every required field.
- Registration in the CIHEAM Bari CV Roster of Experts (<https://cviamb.iamb.it>) Candidates should comply with the above points to avoid exclusion from the ranking list.

In case availability is not granted, CIHEAM Bari reserves the right to appoint another candidate from the ranking list.

## 7. REMUNERATION

Remuneration and allowances are subject to CIHEAM Bari rules and regulations; in particular, salary will be set based on professional seniority, specific professional qualification and level of competence concerning the

responsibilities and specific tasks the successful candidate will be required to perform. Additional benefits are also subject to CIHEAM Bari rules and regulations and may be evaluated case by case.

As international intergovernmental organization, CIHEAM Bari cannot act as withholding agent. Consequently, a gross remuneration will be paid to the selected consultant in Euros including charges, social security and any additional tax charges. CIHEAM Bari will evaluate and negotiate the costs associated with annual round-trip flights, accident/death insurance, and residence permit/long-term visa applications (where applicable, and subject to the host country's regulations and any relevant cooperation agreements).

Permanent and non-permanent staff are expected to adhere to the code of ethics and conduct of CIHEAM Bari that reflects the commitments to the Organization's core values.

## **8. PERSONAL DATA PROCESSING**

Applicants are aware that submitting their application implies consensus to process and manage their personal data (including sensitive data). This data will be managed exclusively by CIHEAM Bari staff, who oversee storing and using the application file. CIHEAM Bari is committed to managing personal data in compliance with privacy obligations issued last 5 July 2019 ("Information Security and Personal Data Protection Policy"), based on EU Regulation 679/2016 – "General Data Protection Regulation" including subsequent amendments.

## **9. FINAL PROVISIONS**

CIHEAM Bari reserves the right to proceed with the candidate appointment to the position only after the administrative and financial procedure for the allocation of the project funding has been completed and following clearances and no objections received from the competent authorities/institutions. CIHEAM Bari may not go through the assignment procedure also for discretionary reasons. The position is not a permanent job within the CIHEAM Bari or the project itself and is subject to periodical monitoring. If force majeure obliges the consultant to return to Italy, the remuneration will be re-determined accordingly.