

Job Profile

Position Title: Call for Interest - IFAD FM Consultants Roster Position Grade: Consultancy

Duty Station: China / Beijing

Department: FOD Job Family: Finance

Division: FMD

Organizational Setting

The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) is an international financial institution and a specialized United Nations agency dedicated to eradicating rural poverty and hunger. It does so by investing in rural people. IFAD finances programmes and projects that increase agricultural productivity and raise rural incomes, and advocates at the local, national, and international level for policies that contribute to rural transformation.

The Financial Operations Department (FOD) is a dynamic financial, strategic, and responsive business partner and service provider fully supporting IFAD in developing its financial strategy and managing its financial, investments and material resources. FOD ensures that these resources are efficiently, economically, and effectively used to achieve IFAD's objectives in the long-term and deliver on its development commitments.

The Financial Management Services Division (FMD) develops and oversees financial policies and project financial management practices in IFAD-funded operations, including financial reporting, audit, project liquidity management, fiduciary compliance, and support. FMD is responsible for financial management (FM) capacity and risk assessments for projects during design and implementation, reviewing project audit reports and following up audit findings, project fiduciary supervision and providing implementation support to projects on FM aspects. The division is responsible for IFAD's financial management workforce including consultants.

Job Role

IFAD is seeking Financial Management Consultants to join the IFAD FM Consultants Roster. Rostered consultants may be contacted to participate in short-term project missions.

This Call for Interest is open only to candidates who are either nationals or legally resident in the following countries:

- **People's Republic of China.**

Key functions and results

In accordance with IFAD's risk-based approach for design and supervision activities, the Financial Management Consultant will use IFAD's FM Assessment Questionnaire as the basis to collect relevant information concerning the strengths and weaknesses of financial management systems, internal controls and financial reporting systems relating to financial management and financial administration of project funds. This will include monitoring compliance with IFAD's fiduciary

requirements, assessing the adequacy of national FM systems and assessing projects' financial progress. Based on the findings the consultant will make appropriate recommendations.

The consultant may at times be called upon to perform implementation support activities including capacity building. Other assignments could involve follow-up of specific FM tasks and establishing the implementation status of prior recommendations at national, regional and/or local level.

S/he works in close collaboration with the Finance Officer (FO) of the project, as well as other programme management and technical staff to ensure consistency, cohesion, and synergy in the application of technical support and provision of programme development support.

Key Performance Indicators

Key Performance Indicators for financial management consultants include accurate performance of assigned finance operations, technical quality in terms of both substantive depth and adaptive relevance to client needs and customer service approach to problem resolution.

Working Relationships

The FM consultant may represent FMD at the project level and work relationships normally require an exchange of information with a range of outside sources including staff from governments, specialized agencies acting as Co-host agencies, Borrowers, Recipients, Cooperating institutions and other IFIs.

Job Profile Requirements

Education:

- Minimum: Bachelor's degree in accounting, economics or finance-related areas OR a professional qualification/designation/certification in finance-related areas (i.e. accounting/economics/auditing/financial management) issued by an internationally recognized body (i.e. CPA, CA, CPFA, CFA, CIMA, CIIA).
- Desirable: Bachelor's/Advanced degree in accounting, economics or finance-related areas AND/OR a professional qualification/designation/certification in accounting/auditing/financial management issued by an internationally recognized body (i.e. CPA, CA, CPFA, CFA, CIMA, CIIA).
- Areas of focus: Finance (i.e. accounting/economics/auditing/financial management)
- Degree(s) must be from an accredited institution listed on <https://www.whed.net/home.php>.

Work experience:

- Minimum: At least 2 years of relevant professional experience in areas with direct exposure to international standards in public financial management (including accounting and auditing), financial accounting and financial controls in international organizations or donor-financed development projects.

- Desirable: At least 4 years of relevant professional experience in areas with direct exposure to international standards in financial management (including accounting and auditing), financial accounting and financial controls in international organizations or donor-financed development projects.
- Experience with an international financial institution, audit firm, NGO with global outreach or other relevant institution is considered an asset.

Languages:

Asia and the Pacific region

- Required: English (4 – Excellent) and Chinese (4 – Excellent)

Skills:

- **Project Financial Management:** Know-how in project financial management, e.g. internal controls, rural investments, project audit and funds flow, including strong know-how in Programme/Project development, implementation, and management (knowledge or project procurement mechanisms is desirable). Knowledge of procedures and processes relating to EU grants (e.g. Pillar Assessments) and experience with grants FM-procedures/assessments experience on EU-grants procedures is considered an asset.
- **Financial Reporting:** Know-how in financial reporting, statutory and other reporting as well as advanced application of International accounting standards, loan credit risk, financial regulations, policies, rules, and procedures applicable to IFAD and IFIs.
- **Disbursements, Payroll and Payments:** Know-how in financial checks required for disbursements of loans and grants, project payments and payroll transactions to reduce risk of error, fraud and non-compliance with rules, arrears, and management of loans.
- **Problem solving:** Strong systemic and structured thinking, ability to identify and dissect problems into components and formulate a comprehensive set of creative viable and sustainable solutions and strategies
- **Written communication:** Ability to use written communication as a main tool in profession; clear, succinct and convincing written communication; highly professional, balanced and diplomatic language.
- **Verbal communication:** Clear, succinct, and convincing verbal communication; highly professional, balanced, and diplomatic language.
- **Time management:** Adherence to deadlines under time constraints and pressure.
- **Risk management (e.g. financial, operational, reputational):** Know-how in identifying and assessing of potential legal, reputational, ethical risks and potential liabilities arising from financial or operational risks in relation to the Fund's activities;

Other information:

Consultants who are already included in the IFAD FM Consultants Roster do not need to re-apply to this call for interest.

Applicants to this call for interest will undergo a first level screening and those candidates meeting the minimum requirements will be short-listed for a more in-depth assessment. In the interest of making most cost-effective use of funds and resources, we are only able to respond to applicants who are short-listed. Candidates who do not receive any feedback within three months after the closure of the Call for Interest should consider their application unsuccessful.

Rostered consultants may be contacted for short-term project missions and the remuneration will be commensurate with the candidate's education, qualifications, experience and skills as well as the nature of the assignment in terms of:

- Responsibilities and complexities of the assignment
- The degree of specialization required

Inclusion in the IFAD FM Consultants Roster does not represent a confirmation or commitment of current or future consultancy opportunities with IFAD.

Consultants are not considered staff of IFAD. An eventual consultancy assignment does not carry any expectation of employment, extension, or conversion to another type of contract with the IFAD.

Please, only in the case your credentials and skills meet the above requirements, send your updated CV to following email address: FMD_APR@ifad.org