



VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

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Field Assistants

Duration: 6 months period
Duty Station: Swaziland, Mbabane

Project Number: TCP/SWA/3602

Background and justification:

FAO in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, are engaged in a TCP to foster investment in aquaculture and promote an effectively governed fisheries and aquaculture development that is socially inclusive, equitable and environmentally responsible, and provides opportunities for sustainable and profitable aqua farming as well as the economic activities that grow around it, with particular focus on women. The expected outcomes are three-fold: 1.the implementation of a national fisheries and aquaculture strategy for better management of activities in Swaziland i.e. Sector management of activities improved based on National fisheries and aquaculture strategy and action plan implemented; 2.development of ecologically and adoption and socio-economically responsible and profitable forms of aquaculture by farmers and investors in Swaziland increased 3. Farmers/investors in Swaziland's ability to use appropriate business models to explore market options and increase the knowledge of aqua-business management skills strengthened

These will be achieved through five linked outputs: a) Swaziland Fisheries and Aquaculture Development Strategy and Action Plans; b) capacity in fisheries management built within the Ministry of Agriculture; c) resource map of the aquaculture potential of Swaziland; d) organized and empowered farmer groups (with focus on women) employing improved market, business planning and management; and e) an investment guide for public investment in the development of the aquaculture subsector and private investment in aquaculture production.

Many of the activities focus on demonstrating the application of concepts and methodologies in tilapia farming and drawing lessons from these for application to other farming systems and species such as catfish in Swaziland as well as to the other farming sectors of neighbouring landlocked countries with similar bio-physical conditions.

Specific activities and main responsibilities

Working under the overall supervision of the FAO Representative for Swaziland (FAOR), the direct supervision of Aquaculture Officers from FAO SFS and HQ, and in close collaboration with the Lead Consultant of the project, Fisheries Department and other experts engaged by FAO, the Field Assistants will be expected to assist conduction of a socio-economic survey on aquafarm farmers in Swaziland, to assist the development of Registry of aquafarmers, and to assist a Technical and Financial Feasibility Study of tilapia culture and pre-liminary Technical and Financial Feasibility study of culture of other species as identified (ie. Rainbow trout). The Field Assistants will also assist in close collaboration with the Project consultant in trainings and extension support to aquafarmers – using materials prepared or adapted by project Consultants and cleared by the FAO technical officers.

- Assist in trainings;
- Assist in identification of aquafarmer interviewees;
- Receive and follow instruction all literature and materials used in the survey to the team leader;
- Receive training and prepare in interviewing using structured questionnaires prepared in collaboration with Consultants of the project;
- Field test the questionnaires;
- Set interview dates with respondents;
- Conduct interviews with respondents;
- Report the number of surveys collected and any unusual situations to the team leader on a daily basis;
- Encoding the data with the guidance of the project consultants;
- Prepare source data for computer entry by compiling and sorting information;
- Enter data into a computerized system and/or statistical software as applicable;
- Assisting the expert in compiling and analysing and synthesizing the survey data;
- Assist in close collaboration with the Project consultant in trainings and extension support to aquafarmers
- Undertake any other duties as assigned the technical team.

Minimum Qualifications & Experience

- Diploma in Fisheries, Agriculture, Economics or related field;
- Preferably 5 years practical experience in conducting field surveys and mapping.

Selection criteria

- Highly organized individual, punctual, disciplined and capable of handling multiple priorities, meeting deadlines, and managing time effectively;
- Ability to work independently as well as an effective team player;
- Willing to work in the field;
- Adequate communication and interpersonal skills needed to conduct interviews;
- Proficiency in spoken and written English and SiSwati;
- Knowledge of local culture.
- Have demonstrable experience in research
- Ability to write technical documents clearly and concisely

The FAO Recruitment Office

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FAO is an equal opportunity employer and qualified women are encouraged to apply. FAO is a smoke free environment.