



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Terms of Reference for Consultant

Name:	
Job Title:	Visiting Expert (Agricultural Innovation Systems)
Division/Department:	Research and Extension Unit (AGDR)
Programme/Project Number:	
Duty Station:	Rome, Italy
Expected Start Date of Assignment:	Duration: 11 months
Reports to: Name: Samy Gaiji	Title: Senior Agricultural Research Officer/Head AGDR

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF TASK(S) AND OBJECTIVES TO BE ACHIEVED

The Research and Extension Unit (AGDR) supports the transformation of agriculture systems through innovation in particular by **enhancing national agriculture research institutions** and **agricultural and rural extension services** through policy advice, research prioritization, capacity building, extension service reform and the provision of knowledge.

The Tropical Agriculture Platform (TAP) was launched at the first G20-led Meeting of Agriculture Chief Scientists (MACS) in September 2012, Mexico, and FAO was requested to lead its development. The G8 leadership also endorsed the development of TAP. The main focus of TAP is the development of national capacities for agricultural innovation in the tropics, where most of the developing countries are located and the capacity gap is especially wide. By helping to bridge the capacity gap, TAP aims to pave the way for agricultural innovations that meet the demands of its principal users - small farmers, small and medium-sized agribusinesses and consumers. Within the context of TAP, FAO is working with its partner organizations into fostering greater coherence of capacity development activities in support of agricultural innovation in the tropics. For this purpose a Framework was formulated in 2015 and is now being tested in eight countries (Laos, Bangladesh, Rwanda, Angola, Ethiopia, Burkina Faso, Guatemala, Honduras) and an online knowledge-sharing platform (TAPipedia) has been developed and is being further expanded.

Under the general supervision of the Head, Research and Extension Unit, the Visiting Expert will join a vibrant team of research and extension experts. He/She will support the TAP work plan with a specific focus on documentation and background studies. This position is a direct contribution to FAO Strategic Objective 2 ("Make agriculture, forestry and fisheries more productive and sustainable") and 3 ("Reduce rural poverty").

More specifically, the incumbent will:

- 1) Document success stories, lessons learnt and impact studies related to agricultural innovation and share them widely through TAPipedia;
- 2) Carry out a study on innovations linking smallholder farmers to markets, with special focus on public-private partnerships (identify and review cases, analyze opportunities and constraints related to organizational settings and the enabling environment, formulate draft policy recommendations);
- 3) Explore and outline the role of innovation in agricultural development programmes of BRICS countries;
- 4) Perform any other duties as assigned by the AGDR Head.

The Visiting Expert will be located at the Secretariat of the Tropical Agriculture Platform (TAP) hosted by FAO.

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Expected Outputs:	Required Completion Date:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Policy brief on the role of innovation in agricultural development programmes of BRICS countries• Study report (innovations linking smallholder farmers to markets)• Innovation success stories and lessons learned documented and shared• Impact studies documented and shared	