



Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Vacancy Announcement No:

Issued on:
Deadline For Application:

Position Title:	Junior Professional Officer (Food safety and quality)	Grade Level:	P-2
Organizational Unit:	REU Region	Duty Station:	To be determined
		Duration *:	Fixed-term, 2 years with possibility of extension
		Post Number:	
		CCOG Code:	

*The length of appointment for internal FAO candidates will be established in accordance with applicable policies pertaining to the extension of appointments

- **FAO is committed to achieving workforce diversity in terms of gender, nationality, background and culture**
- **Qualified female applicants, qualified nationals of non-and under-represented Members and persons with disabilities are encouraged to apply**
- **Everyone who works for FAO is required to adhere to the highest standards of integrity and professional conduct, and to uphold FAO's values**
- **FAO, as a Specialized Agency of the United Nations, has a zero-tolerance policy for conduct that is incompatible with its status, objectives and mandate, including sexual exploitation and abuse, sexual harassment, abuse of authority and discrimination**
- **All selected candidates will undergo rigorous reference and background checks**
- **All applications will be treated with the strictest confidentiality**
- **FAO staff are subject to the authority of the Director-General, who may assign them to any of the activities or offices of the Organization.**

Organizational Setting

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) contributes to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda through the FAO Strategic Framework by supporting the transformation to MORE efficient, inclusive, resilient and sustainable agrifood systems, for *better production, better nutrition, a better environment and a better life*, leaving no one behind.

The Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia (REU) is responsible for leading FAO's response to regional priorities for food security, agriculture and rural development through the identification, planning and implementation of FAO's priority activities in the region, in line with the FAO Strategic Framework. It ensures a multidisciplinary approach to programmes, identifies priority areas of action for the Organization in the region and, in collaboration with offices and divisions at headquarters and other UN agencies and stakeholders including Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and the private sector, and develops, promotes and oversees FAO's strategic response to regional priorities. REU supports regional policy dialogue on food security, agriculture and rural development issues, facilitates the emergence of regional partnerships, and supports capacity development and resource mobilization for food security, agriculture and rural development in the region.

Based on the priority areas agreed by the Regional Conference for Europe, the Regional Office supports smallholder and family farms, agrifood systems transformation, natural resource management, and food security and nutrition.

Food safety and quality has been identified as an important priority to be addressed in the Europe and Central Asia region as a fundamental element of food system transformation. It is a crucial area of work to improve agri-food trade, strengthen market integration, reduce food loss and waste, assure healthy food systems, and protect consumer health. The Regional Office provides technical support to Governments in improving their systems to ensure food safety and quality along the food chain. This technical assistance includes, but is not limited to, assessing food control systems, strengthening specific functions, programmes and capacities essential to planning, and implementing effective food control.

The range of expertise required includes review of food legislation and standards, food safety policy and strategy development; review institutional arrangements; building adequate national Codex programmes, and effective participation in Codex Alimentarius processes; use of the risk analysis framework; domestic food inspection capacities; export/import requirements, including World Trade Organization (WTO) agreements; laboratory management and food analytical capacities; as well as risk assessment of chemicals and microbiological hazards in food. In addition, technical assistance may focus on strengthening specific value chain food safety management systems (e.g. dairy and meat value chain); food safety for food loss and waste reduction, on-farm food safety, and fostering public-private collaboration and consumer awareness.

The position is located in (TBD) ...

Reporting Lines

The Junior Professional Officer (Food Safety and Quality) reports to the Food Safety and Consumer Protection Officer and the Agro-Industry Officer under the overall supervision of the Regional Programme Leader for Europe and Central Asia.

Technical Focus

The Junior Professional Officer (Food Safety and Quality) assists with the development and implementation of programmes and activities related to on food safety and quality and food loss and waste reduction.

Key Results

Collection and analysis of information, data and statistics and project/meeting services to support programme projects, products and services.

Key Functions

- Collects and analyses relevant technical, social, economic, environmental, institutional and technology related information, data and/or statistics to support the delivery of programme projects as well as products and services;
- Undertakes analysis, provides technical input for plans and reports and edits/revises technical/scientific documents;
- Participates in the development of improved work methods, tools and systems;
- Updates databases and web pages;
- Participates in multidisciplinary project/work teams;
- Collaborates in the development of training tools and materials and the organization of workshops/seminars, etc.;
- Participates in the organization, conduct and follow-up of meetings, consultations and conferences, the development/production of required materials and the provision of information and assistance to partners.

Specific Functions

- Supports the formulation and delivery of regional and country level projects that respond to country needs on food safety and food loss and waste reduction;
- Contributes to food control assessments and the strengthening of institutional and technical capacities on food control;
- Supports the methodology development for data collection (such as information checklist/questionnaire) and provides the guidance for the data collection;
- Prepares training materials and consumer education tools on food safety and quality, and the prevention of food loss and food waste reduction;
- Supports the delivery of the urban work of FAO in the region, including aspects of consumer food literacy and food waste reduction;
- Participates in meetings and workshops and provides technical support to project formulation and implementation;
- Supports the preparation and publishing of reports and publications related food safety food loss and waste reduction.

CANDIDATES WILL BE ASSESSED AGAINST THE FOLLOWING

Minimum Requirements

- Advanced university degree in relevant area such as economics, environmental studies, climate change, food and nutrition, food technology, veterinary sciences, toxicology, food law, international law, trade law, statistics, or related fields.
- Three years of relevant experience, including research, management, policy development or implementation, food trade and markets, food safety and quality, statistics, and data management.
- Working knowledge (proficient – level C) of English and limited knowledge (intermediate – level B) of another FAO official language (Arabic, Chinese, French, Russian or Spanish).

Competencies

- Results Focus
- Teamwork
- Communication
- Building Effective Relationships
- Knowledge Sharing and Continuous Improvement

Technical/Functional Skills

- Work experience in more than one location or area of work, particularly in field positions, is desirable
- Extent and relevance of experience in collecting and analysing technical information and data
- Extent and relevance of knowledge and experience in related fields such as food and nutrition security, food systems, value chain development, agrifood marketing
- Extent and relevance of experience in the preparation, editing and revision of technical/scientific documents and in organizing meetings and workshops
- Extent and relevance of experience in establishing and maintaining partnerships with UN agencies, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) as well as donors and government institutions and agencies
- Working knowledge (proficient – level C) of another FAO language would be an asset.

Please note that all candidates should adhere to *FAO Values of Commitment to FAO, Respect for All and Integrity and Transparency*.
