

Job Description

Position Title: Programme Analyst (JPO)	Contract type: Fixed-term appointment (Junior Professional Officer)
Grade: P2	Duty Station: Istanbul, Turkey
Department: Programme Management Department (PMD)	Division/Unit: Near East, North Africa and Europe Division (NEN)
Duration of Assignment: 2 years (renewable up to 3 years subject to satisfactory performance, recommendation by respective office and partner country agreement). Extension for a third year, possibly in a different duty station, will depend on availability of financial resources and the candidate's performance.	Effective Date: As soon as possible

1. Organisational Context

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 Programme Management Department (PMD), under the leadership of the Associate Vice-President, is responsible for the overall programme of loans and grants of the Fund and is composed of five regional divisions and an Operational Policy and Results Division.

The Near East, North Africa and Europe Division, NEN is responsible for developing and managing IFAD's strategy for the region as a whole (22 countries and 1 territory) and for individual countries, and within those strategies, for developing and managing its regional and country programmes. The drive towards aid effectiveness and harmonisation and support that is given to Joint Assistance Strategies, and the One UN initiative is an important focus of the Division's work. IFAD's goal in the regions is to enable rural poor people to gain the skills, knowledge, organization and build assets that they need to take full advantage of markets and economic opportunities, engage with service providers and participate in local development processes. Focus is increasingly being put on catalysing private investment, creating employment opportunities for rural youth and adapting to climate change.

IFAD has been investing in poor rural women and men in the EECA region for decades. Among other things, IFAD's approach aims at: 1) enabling poor people in vulnerable areas to better adapt their

livelihoods to climate change; 2) helping small producers and entrepreneurs benefit from improved value chains and greater market access; 3) empowering marginalized groups, including poor rural women, both economically and socially.

The IFAD Multi-Country Office for Eastern Europe and Central Asia has several staff and various short-term consultants.

2. SUPERVISION

Direct supervisor: Head of MCO for Eastern Europe and Central Asia

Content and methodology of supervision:

The Programme Analyst (JPO) will support IFAD's country programme in select areas of the EECA region. After an inception period, they will assist with the oversight of (multiple) individual projects and carry out tasks assigned to them by country directors in consultation with the Head of the Multi-Country Office. They will prepare an annual work plan reviewed by the Head of the Multi-Country Office and regular meetings will be held to monitor and reorient the work. Mid-year review and annual review will help to analyse performance and plan for the subsequent period.

3. Purpose of position

Under the overall guidance of the Head of the Multi-Country Office for Eastern Europe and Central Asia, the Programme Analyst will assist with sub-regional portfolio and country programme management related activities on a full range of corporate and operational matters including:

- Design and implementation of new country strategies
- Design of new projects
- Supervision and implementation support of active projects
- Engagement with Government and implementing agencies
- Engagement with development partners
- Engagement in knowledge management and knowledge/communication products
- Engagement in national and regional events
- Discharge other tasks as assigned from time to time by the Head of the Multi-Country Office for Eastern Europe and Central Asia

The sub-regional programme covers a range of themes (such as rural economic growth, poverty reduction, agriculture sector modernization and commercialization, climate action, women's empowerment, youth agenda, food security and nutrition, micro-enterprise growth and job creation, policy support).

The JPO will contribute to ensuring the implementation of these themes across the sub-regional programme as appropriate. They may be asked in particular to focus on designing, supervising, and supporting the implementation of activities focused on gender equity and women's empowerment, job creation and the decent work agenda, youth inclusion with skills training and employment intermediation, and overall economic impact and household income increase.

The JPO will be stationed at the IFAD country Office in Istanbul, Turkey, with duty travel to the field. Travel to/from HQ and regional events may also arise from time to time.



Investing in rural people

4. Duties and Responsibilities

The JPO will assume the following responsibilities:

Among other things, the JPO will support the Head of the Multi-Country Office for Eastern Europe and Central Asia analyse corporate results management, trends in projects at risk, disbursement levels, portfolio implementation performance, partnership arrangements, project monitoring and evaluation, impact assessments. They will draft reports, as required, attend meetings and take minutes, and carry out other task, as assigned by the Head of the Multi-Country Office.

The JPO will further be required to understand and promote integration of IFAD's mainstreaming themes, such as youth, climate change, etc. in the projects and country programme with a specific focus on the role and participation of the youth and women in transforming the rural economy. In addition, the JPO will:

1) Programme development, supervision and implementation support

- a) Assist and support the implementation and monitoring and evaluation of IFAD projects and the design of programmes and projects (grants and loans).
- b) Provide advice to enhance project management, including capacity building, with regard to loan administration, procurement, proper financial management, audit procedures, M&E systems which includes the revised RIMS indicators, exit strategies and institutional mechanisms for sustainability after project completion.
- c) Organize and participate in supervision and follow-up missions, contributing also to strategic assessments in their area of expertise, identifying constraints to implementation, making appropriate recommendations, and ensuring timely follow-up of the recommendations.
- d) Undertake activities related to (a) loan / grant entry into force, (b) disbursement conditions; and (c) the facilitation of early implementation including project start-ups.
- e) Review: (i) Annual Work Plans and Budgets (AWPBs), (ii) Audit Reports; and (iii) Progress Reports. Monitor project progress and implementation, anticipate problems and recommend to the CD preventive measures; assist in the timely and systematic completion of project activities and closure of loans and grants.
- f) Contribute to project design, implementation support, supervision and completion missions to monitor progress and measure results allowing for more efficient implementation and policy development.
- g) Ensure that the country programme is addressing IFAD's mainstreaming agenda, such as, climate change, promoting gender equality and women's empowerment and the inclusion of people with disabilities, improving nutrition and fostering youth employment in the pursuit of adopting a people-centered approach of rural transformation.
- h) Support the country team in ensuring integration of youth issues across the portfolio, including job creation, entrepreneurial skills development, and overall participation in the rural economy.

2) Monitoring & Evaluation, Knowledge Management and Communication

- a) Provide analysis on implementation progress and results measurement; advise on monitoring tools and ensure compliance with corporate reporting systems.
- b) Support horizontal collaboration and knowledge sharing among IFAD-funded projects around value chains, farmers' organizations and private sector development through meetings, workshops and exchange visits.
- c) Contribute to knowledge management and communication products, including relevant case studies, through meetings, workshops and exchange visits and enhance visibility of IFAD-funded

3) **Policy & Partnerships development**

- a) Contribute to policy development workshops based on IFAD projects, innovations and comparative advantage.
- b) Establish networks and build partnership with: UN agencies and other donors, private sector and civil society representatives and with projects and programmes in the region that are relevant to the country programme.

5. Qualifications and Skills Required

Education

- Advanced university degree from an accredited institution in rural development, agriculture, agricultural economics, rural finance, development policy or related disciplines.
- Degree must be obtained from an accredited institution listed on <https://www.whed.net/home.php>
- At least two (2) years', preferably 3-4 years', progressively responsible professional experience required, preferably in development institutions and/or government service.

Experiences:

- Strong experience in programme/project management required.
- Qualifying work experience in country programme analysis or loan/grant administration with International financial institutions, development cooperation agencies, etc., would be an asset.

Language:

- Excellent written and spoken English.
- Good working knowledge of Russian and or Turkish languages would be an asset.

6. Organizational/technical competencies

Organizational

- **Strategic thinking and organizational development:** Personal influence
- **Demonstrating Leadership:** Personal leadership and attitude to change
- **Learning, sharing knowledge and innovating:** Continuously seeks to learn, shares knowledge and innovates
- **Focusing on clients:** Focuses on clients
- **Problem solving and decision making:** Demonstrates sound problem solving and decision making ability
- **Managing time, resources and information:** Manages own time, information and resources effectively
- **Team Work:** Contributes effectively to the team
- **Communicating and negotiating:** Communicates effectively: creates understanding between self and others
- **Building relationships and partnerships:** Builds and maintains effective working relationships

Technical

- Knowledge of rural project management and market development desirable.
- Field experience related to agricultural and rural development desirable.
- Knowledge of policy oriented, programme based pro-poor approaches, and loan and grant preparation desirable.
- Capacity to communicate fluently with different counterparts (civil society, government authorities, local communities, project staff) to align parties and build networks.
- Writes clearly, succinctly and convincingly listens and communicates effectively to engage others.
- Computer skills: Knowledge of ERP systems is an asset, full command of office applications (Word, Excel, PowerPoint) and common Internet applications.

Learning Points

- Gain insights into the development, coordination and implementation of medium to longer-term International Financial Institutions (IFIs) investment strategies in agriculture and rural development; intensify collaboration with governments and other national stakeholders for rural poverty reduction.
- Expand knowledge on private sector development from a corporate and country portfolio perspective in order to facilitate replication of practices and scaling up.
- Strengthen competencies to support the design, supervision and implementation of IFI financed programmes with a view to maximizing development effectiveness, impact and sustainable development results.