

Advertisement

Associate Professional Officer (APO)

Climate change adaptation in drylands

Closing date: 24 May 2015

For candidates from eligible developing countries only



I General information

Title:	APO in Climate Change Adaptation in Drylands
Sector of Assignment:	Forest management (forests and climate change, and monitoring and assessment of forested landscapes, dryland forests)
Country:	Ethiopia
Duty station:	Addis Ababa
Agency:	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).
Duration of Assignment:	Initially one year with the possibility to extend up to three years
Grade:	P-1 step 1 or P-2 step 1 in the first year, depending on the level of education and relevant working experience

Note: This post is opened in the context of the Associate Professional Officer (APO) scheme sponsored by the Government of the Netherlands and is addressed exclusively to **candidates from developing countries**. Candidates **MUST BE NATIONALS OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES THAT APPEAR ON THE LIST OF THE FOLLOWING ELIGIBLE COUNTRIES FOR THE DUTCH APO PROGRAMME:**

[HTTP://WWW.NEDWORCFFOUNDATION.NL/PDF/LIST%20OF%20ELIGIBLE%20DEVELOPING%20COUNTRIES%20-%202015.PDF](http://www.nedworcfoundation.nl/pdf/list%20of%20eligible%20developing%20countries%20-%202015.pdf)

For criteria see the website of Nedworc Foundation:

[HTTP://WWW.NEDWORCFFOUNDATION.NL/INDEX.HTM?HOOFDPATH=/NL/JPO/GENERAL%20INFORMATION.HTM&HOOFDHASH](http://www.nedworcfoundation.nl/index.htm?hooofdpath=/nl/jpo/general%20information.htm&hoofdhash)

Please read the criteria and FAQ section carefully before considering applying.

II Duties, responsibilities and Output Expectations

General

The Forest Assessment, Management and Conservation Division (FOM) of the FAO Forestry Department includes among its six teams the Dryland Forests, Agroforestry and Climate Change Team and three teams involved in forest monitoring and assessment, among which is the UN-REDD Team. Responsibility for work related to climate change adaptation in forests and rangelands and to dryland forest monitoring, assessment and management falls to the FOM Division. FAO's Sub-regional Office for Eastern Africa (SFE), located in Ethiopia, provides support to countries in the sub-region for food security and development of the agricultural sectors through its Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT).

A core activity is to adapt or develop new tools for large scale and comprehensive monitoring and assessment of drylands and countries capacities for forest monitoring and assessment with multiple key

partners involved in the “Action Against Desertification in support to the Great Green Wall for the Sahara and the Sahel initiative” project, UN-REDD programme (FAO, UNDP, UNEP), and/or “Forest and Landscapes Restoration” efforts (WRI, GEF, UNCCD, World Bank, FAO, IUCN, GPFLR and FLRM).

The second core activity is to strengthen countries’ capacities in East Africa, North Africa and the Sahel to implement climate change adaptation measures in the forest and range sectors to reduce vulnerabilities of people and to improve food security and reduce poverty in these areas.

1. Responsibility 1

Contribute to the ongoing initiatives to develop a large scale and comprehensive monitoring methodology/tool for forests, trees, rangelands and agro-silvopastoral systems in drylands with several key partners involved in the project “Action Against Desertification” and/or “Forest and Landscapes Restoration” efforts (World Resources Institute (WRI), Global Environment Facility (GEF), United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), Permanent Interstates Committee on for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS), Sahara and Sahel Observatory (OSS), World Bank, EU, African Union Commission (AUC), Africa, Caribbean and Pacific Secretariat, FAO, IUCN, Global Partnership on Forest Landscape Restoration (GPFLR) and Forest and Landscape Restoration Mechanism (FLRM).

2. Responsibility 2

Contribute to efforts to improve country capacity in monitoring and assessment in drylands and in climate change adaptation in the forest, range and agro-silvopastoral sectors in East Africa, as well as in North Africa and the Sahel.

3. Responsibility 3

Assist the drylands forest programme in preparing a proposal for the establishment of a Working Group on Dryland Forests and Agrosilvopastoral Systems to be submitted to the next session of COFO in 2016 (organization of an ad hoc preparatory meeting, drafting working group terms of reference, modalities and other relevant arrangements and background information, work programme).

4. Responsibility 4

Contribute to the development of other forest and climate change projects in East African countries.

III Training component: Learning elements and expectations

Formal training as well as on-the-job learning opportunities are:

- Opportunity to develop multiple skills on monitoring and assessment of forests, trees, rangelands and agrosilvopastoral systems with recognized experts working within the FAO Forestry Department and FAO’s field offices (FRA and Collect Earth/NFMA Team, UN-REDD Team, SFE and with other FAO divisions such as NRL, AGPM, AGAG, ES).
- Opportunity to develop multiple skills on monitoring and assessment of dryland forests and agrosilvopastoral systems with recognized experts working outside of FAO including in organizations as WRI, JRC –EC in Ispra, UNCCD, GEF, IUCN, CILSS/Aghrymet, OSS, AUC ClimDev and others.
- Opportunity to develop skills on climate change adaptation in forests and rangelands through on-the-job training. .
- Increase knowledge of food security and development of the agriculture and forestry sectors in Eastern Africa through day-to-day interaction with SFE Multi-Disciplinary (MDT) technical officers and involvement in other MDT activities.
- The APO position includes a duty travel and training allowance (DTTA) of USD 4,000 per year which may be used for learning activities related to the assignment and career development

IV Supervision

Title of supervisor:

The APO would be under the administrative direction of the Coordinator Head of FAO's Sub-regional Office for Eastern Africa and the day-to-day supervision of the Sub-regional Forestry Officer for Eastern Africa.

Technical guidance and supervision will be provided by the Forestry Officer (Drylands) and the Team Leader of the Dryland Forests, Agroforestry and Climate Change team at FAO Headquarters.

The APO will work closely with staff working both out of FAO Headquarters and Sub-Regional Office for Eastern Africa, but also interact with staff from FAO's Regional Office for Africa. The APO will have opportunities to work with colleagues in a wide spectrum of disciplines, including in agriculture, forest and rangeland management and restoration, and land and water management for environmental sustainability, food security and poverty alleviation.

The APO would have valuable first-hand experience in developing countries through the posting in Ethiopia and duty travels to nearby countries. He/she will have valuable networking opportunities in these countries, with regional and sub-regional organizations (e.g. African Union Commission, IGAD, EAC, COMESA) and international organizations working on drylands, desertification and climate change issues).

V Required Qualifications and Experience

Education:

University degree at M.Sc. or MA level in climate change, forestry and natural resources management, or environment (ideally with a specialization in dryland forest or/and remote sensing/GIS).

Working experience :

- Preferably 2 to 4 years of work experience on climate change and/or monitoring and assessment of forests
- Computer literacy (fluency on Word, Excel, internet and databases) and ability to use GIS and remote sensing technology and carry out data analysis.

Desirable qualifications:

- Practical experience or exposure on climate change issues related to agriculture, forestry and other land uses.
- Ability to analyse documents, data and reports provided by countries (particularly in the context of the worldwide Forest Resources Assessment published every five years by the FAO Forestry Department, National Adaptation Plans, National Reports and Greenhouse Gas Inventories submitted to UNFCCC).
- Ability to work on regional remote sensing surveys and to produce maps with most common GIS Software
- Ability to write technical documents on climate change adaptation and forests and rangelands.
- Experience and/or knowledge of dryland forests and agro-silvopastoral systems.
- Ability to work in a multicultural team and to exchange with several networks of experts/scientists
- Past experience in Africa and notably in East Africa or Sub Saharan Africa.
- Ability to write reports and correspond in a clear, concise and efficient manner.

Languages: Excellent knowledge of English; working knowledge of French will be an asset.

Key competencies

- Results Focus
- Teamwork
- Communication
- Building Effective Relationships

- Knowledge Sharing and Continuous Improvement

VI Background information on Agency/Department/Section

Specific programmes/projects and activities on which the APO will be working:

- GCP/INT/157/EC - Action Against Desertification” project (NTE February 2019) implemented by FAO which has the objective to improve the condition and productivity of the agrosilvopastoral landscapes for reduced vulnerability to climate change, improved food security and poverty reduction in lands affected by desertification, land degradation and drought (DLDD) in Africa, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP). The project will support countries in implementation of the Great Green Wall action plans in Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Gambia, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal (as well as UNCCD action plans in Fiji and Haiti and South-South Cooperation in ACP countries). The tasks include supporting the development of new monitoring tools and the assessment of forests and agrosilvopastoral landscapes in drylands. The EU is funding the project and the African Union Commission (headquartered in Addis Ababa) and Government organizations in the six participating African countries and the GM-UNCCD and Royal Botanic Gardens of Kew are among the partners of the project.
- The activities of the dryland forests and climate change programme at FAO, which is strengthening country capacity in countries and working to develop projects, including a sub-regional project in climate change adaptation in the forest and range sectors in the Nile Basin countries (Egypt, Ethiopia, Sudan and South Sudan). A project prospectus based on the outcomes of a workshop of the four countries held in December 2013 has been drafted. The APO would support the further development of the project document and eventual project once funded and would be expected to contribute to the development of other forests and climate change projects in the East Africa sub-region.

VII Information on living conditions at Duty Station

General living conditions in Addis Ababa are satisfactory and security is good. Addis Ababa has good and safe housing facilities, and medical and social services are also readily available.

VIII How to apply

Applicants are required to submit their applications through the FAO iRecruitment online system.

To apply, please visit the iRecruitment website at: <http://www.fao.org/employment/irecruitment-access/en/> and follow the below steps:

1. Register in iRecruitment to create your account and complete your online profile. For step-by-step instructions, please consult the [Guidelines for Applicants](#).
2. Attach to your online profile a **Letter of Motivation** and a **copy of your highest academic achievement**.
3. Apply to the “Call for Applications” No. **IRC2854** by **(24 May 2015)**. Vacancies will be automatically removed from the site at 23:59 hrs CET on the deadline for applications date.

Please ensure that you have completed your online profile in all sections and attached the required documents. **Incomplete applications will not be evaluated**. Upon submitting your application you will receive an online automatic acknowledgement. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.

The successful candidate will need to be able to start the assignment as soon as possible.