



United Nations World Food Programme
Centre of Excellence against Hunger

South-South Programme Specialist

Location:	Brasília, Brazil
Application Deadline:	23th May, 2014
Type of Contract:	Service Contract
Post Level:	SC-11
Duration of Contract:	12 months

Background

The World Food Programme is the world's largest humanitarian agency fighting hunger worldwide. WFP's strategies are to save lives and protect livelihoods in emergencies, prepare for emergencies, restore and rebuild lives after emergencies, reduce chronic hunger and under nutrition, and strengthen the capacity of countries to reduce hunger.

The WFP Centre of Excellence against Hunger is a global hub for South-South Cooperation and capacity development in the areas of school feeding, food security and nutrition. It is an innovation that seeks to respond government demands for technical support to strengthen their national capacities and knowledge on sustainable school feeding and other food security programme and to support them in the design and implementation of these programmes. The WFP Centre supports 18 countries and host study visits.

The position of South-South Programme Specialist is located at the Centre of Excellence against Hunger in Brasilia and will have the primary responsibility for designing and managing the Centre's study visit programme—which is a key component of the Centre's Capacity Development Programme.

Duties and Responsibilities

Summary of Key Functions:

Under the overall supervision of the Centre's Director, reporting directly to the Deputy Director of the Centre and in close collaboration with the Centre's Programme Officer, the South-South Programme Specialist's primary role is to guide the Centre's study visit programme to Brazil including the needs analysis of visiting countries, study visit design and objectives, preparation in conjunction with WFP Country Office, ABC and other stakeholders, oversee organization, manage the execution of the visit and ensure an effective learning environment is facilitated and that study visits are concluded with policy dialogue action planning process that facilitates the establishment of and/or transition to nationally-owned and led school feeding and other hunger programmes. The SS Programme Specialist will also contribute to research, lessons learning and knowledge management agenda of the Centre and partners. The SS Programme Specialist will also backstop other aspects of the Centre's Capacity Development Programme and contribute to policy discussions as required. The SS Programme will also coordinate the new DFID grants on Food Security and Social Protection.

Specifically, the SS Programme Specialist will:

- Responsible for programme management which includes implementation and monitoring of programme and activities;
- Coordinate the DFID grants on Food Security and Social Protection in close relation to the donor and partners;
- Coordinate technical visits and short courses of high level and technical officials for the exchange of successful experiences to promote policies relevant to enhance school feeding, food security and social protection programs in close coordination with Brazilian Federal Government (e.g. Agencia Brasileira de Cooperacao), Municipalities and other relevant stakeholders;
- Facilitate the development of an action plan to be implemented by the visiting mission in their country of origin;
- Supervision of and guidance of support staff based at the WFP Centre of Excellence and at the ministry;
- Ensure effective tracking of study visit requests and demands and follow-up
- Identify research opportunities and needs.
- Analyze policy issues, suggest strategies and prepare lessons learnt related to the south-south cooperation, capacity development and school feeding and other;
- Contribute and comment on policy papers, recommendations, reports and studies on poverty, food security, school feeding, South-South Cooperation and development related issues;
- Through organization of case studies, demonstrate how project innovations work and offer guidance for eventual replication and scaling up;
- Prepare relevant technical reviews report (social protection, poverty, food security, school feeding, capacity development and South-South Cooperation) that will contribute to the elaboration of "lessons learned" and best practices;
- Responsible to coordinate events, conference and seminars organized by the Centre;
- Develop and sustain liaison with key professionals (civil society, UN system and Governments) and NGOs engaged in the field of food security, school feeding and social protection programmes;
- Support related south-south cooperation initiatives between Brazil and partners countries relevant to school feeding, nutrition, food security and social protection programs.

In support of the Centre's Programme Officer, the SS Programme Specialist will also support as required on the following:

- Coordinate and participate in policy dialogue, national consultation, technical visits workshops in country of origin (in close coordination with Country Offices) with the participants of visiting missions and other relevant stakeholders to evaluate and present the outcomes of the exchange and lessons learned to support the formulation and implementation of school feeding, nutrition, food security and social protection policies;
- Contribute to the general technical support to improve the implementation of school feeding, nutrition, food security and social protection programs systems in visiting countries;
- Oversee preparation and dissemination of critical reports about the Centre's achievement;
- Oversee preparation and dissemination of timely analytical and critical reports including proposals for improvements in operation and the scope of programs;
- Responsible for supporting the Program team and consultants based in the field to complete their tasks and assignments.

Objectives

- Provide continuing liaison with different levels of the Brazilian Government; Partners Governments; bilateral agencies, UN agencies and NGOs to coordinate different interventions in the area of school feeding, nutrition, food security and social protection.
- Provide continuing liaison with
- Prepare periodic reports on the progress of operational projects and related government plans;
- Ensure compliance with WFP's policies, criteria and procedures with respect to School Feeding Programmes;
- Supervise other programme assistance staff; provide training and technical guidance in their work.
- Well prepared, analytical work; well managed projects, programmes and/or operations.

Expected Results

- Timely preparation of sound analytical, documents that provide senior staff with well researched and presented positions on WFP and food aid policies and issues.
- Study tours to Brazil and follow up activities for technical support services in close collaboration with the Centre of Excellence against Hunger to the countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America are undertaken;
- The discussion of relevant aspects related to improving School Feeding, Nutrition, Food Security and Social Protection programmes in Africa, Asia and Latin American countries are supported in close partnership with Brazilian Government at Federal and Municipal levels, WFP, UN Agencies and Civil Society organizations;
- Learning activities regarding south to south cooperation projects between stakeholders of involved countries aimed at strengthening the school feeding programmes are developed;
- The dynamic and effective coordination of the Centre's initiatives are ensured, including technical liaison with all partners. Promote and support the development of good practice documentation and research on issues relevant to Fight Against Hunger and School Feeding Programmes and other issues defined by the Centre's Director;
- Coordination with different activities ongoing - especially different projects - at the Centre is assured.

Impact of Results

- Technical programmatic work is well planned, analyzed and managed.
- Effective coordination and dialogue between Brazilian authorities, UN agencies, Foreign Governments, authorities and the Centre are managed in a professional manner.

Required Skills and Experience

Education

- Masters or PhD degree in one or more of the following disciplines: economics, international affairs, social sciences, development studies, urban development or a field relevant to international development assistance.

Experience

- At least five years of postgraduate progressively responsible professional experience in the program area including in developing settings on urban and rural poverty alleviation programme, food security, South-South Cooperation, capacity development and social protection. Project management and administration experience is required;
- Experience in conducting research in developing countries related to poverty, social protection and other topics;
- International professional experience, preferably in Africa, Asia and Latin America countries. Experience in managing staff from other cultures and background;
- Experience in working with International Organizations, Development Partners, High level authorities, local governments and civil society organizations. Experience in organizing high level study tours missions;
- Experience with the UN system desired.

Language Requirements

- Fluency in both oral and written communication in Portuguese and English.
- Spanish or French will be considered an asset.

Competencies

Functional Competencies: Good analytical skills; resourcefulness, initiative, maturity of judgment, tact, negotiating skills; ability to communicate clearly both orally and in writing; ability to work in a team, and establish effective working relations with persons of different national and cultural backgrounds. Ability to cope with situations which may threaten health or safety; flexibility in accepting work assignments outside normal desk description. Ability to deal patiently and tactfully with people of different national and cultural backgrounds.

Action Management: Defines work goals and devises plan to attain them. Delegates work appropriately to them members. Follows up on issues and actions to ensure that objectives are achieved. Analyses potential problems and makes recommendations in a proactive manner.

Communication: Provide clear messages on complex information in area of expertise. Values different viewpoints and facilitates constructive discussions. Anticipates the audience's reaction to messages and adapts communication accordingly.

Ethics and Values: Maintains consistent expectation of staff performance. Applies sound ethics in financial, human resources and business decisions. Takes prompt actions in case of unprofessional behavior of staff.

Teamwork: Recognizes independencies in cross-functional work. Facilitates the exchange of divergent or opposing opinions within the team. Seeks mutually acceptable solutions by trying to understand the concerns and opinion of others.

Client Orientation: Understand the changes needs and expectation of clients Ensures that staff meet the client needs. Works cooperatively with other units/divisions/offices, etc., to meet client needs. Allows clients to actively participate in and contribute to decisions that are relevant to their needs. Makes adjustments to services as required.

Cognitive Capacity: Actively seeks information from a variety of sources. Synthesizes based upon in-depth understanding of issues. Draws solid conclusions and/or recommendations. Anticipates the impact or consequence of solutions or proposed ideas.

Interpersonal Relations: Solicits and incorporates varied concerns and perspectives of others in daily work. Recognizes and defuses potentially confrontational situations. Participates in cross-unit/division/office work in a manner that fosters strong working relationship and trust.

Stamina & Stress Resistance: Encourages others to maintain a work-life balance. Expresses concerns constructively and calmly in stressful situations. Identifies and proactively responds to the early signs and symptoms of stress.

Behavioral Flexibility: Actively participates in change by questioning methods, making suggestions. Makes appropriate adjustment in work behaviors/roles based on new information, changing situations and priorities. Analyzes the impact of change on area of expertise.

The candidate must have Brazilian Nationality or be legally authorized to work in the country.

Application Procedures

Go to: <http://i-recruitment.wfp.org/vacancies/14-0015111>

Step 1: Create and submit your Online CV.

Step 2: Submit your application.

NOTE: You must complete Step 2 in order for your application to be considered.

WFP is committed to achieving workforce diversity in terms of gender, nationality and culture. Individuals from minority groups, indigenous groups and persons with disabilities are equally encouraged to apply.

All applications will be treated with the strictest confidence. Due to the volume of applications received, receipt of applications cannot be acknowledged individually. Only short-listed applicants will be contacted.