

- PhD or a Master's degree in land management, development economics, international or environmental public policy, or agricultural/environmental sciences
- The candidate should have at least 12 years of professional work experience
- Previous work experience within a multilateral or an international non-governmental organization would be highly desirable
- Experience in programme preparation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation is essential
- Familiarity with PRSP processes would be considered an asset
- Strong organizational, research, team-building and oral presentation skills
- Proven ability to work in a team and in a politically sensitive inter-cultural environment, with minimal supervision
- Computer skills (e.g., Microsoft office) essential
- Good oral and written communication skills in English
- Working knowledge of either French or Portuguese would be an advantage

RESEARCH ASSISTANT (12 month consultant appointment)

OBJECTIVE

The overall objective of this assignment is to begin establishing the enabling environment and support system for TerrAfrica's activities in SSA.

RESPONSIBILITIES

To achieve the above objective, NEPAD will coordinate/implement the following activities.

- **NEPAD's role as a member of the TerrAfrica governing body**
 - Provide support to:
 - prepare for the TerrAfrica Executive Committee meetings
 - coordinate the activities of existing SAGs
- **Operational linkages between TerrAfrica, NEPAD's Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP), and NEPAD's Environment Plans**
 - Provide support:
 - on activities leading to the alignment process of TerrAfrica, CAADP and the Environment Plans

- in the process and activities leading to the development of the capacity building strategy and implementation plan thereof.
- **Sub-regional organizations' engagement on SLM agenda**
 - Assist with:
 - sub-regional organizations' engagement on SLM agenda
 - increase the technical capacity to engage with SSA countries on SLM agenda
- **Communication node between SSA countries and other TerrAfrica partners on SLM and TerrAfrica related issues**
 - Support the joint portfolio review process
- **Program coordination strategy, management arrangements and partnership development**
 - Provide support for:
 - Establishing governance structure of regional SLM initiatives agreed in the TerrAfrica work program
 - Coordinating these regional SLM initiatives
 - Coordinating workshops and associated expert consultations
 - Creating and disseminating SLM communication products (website, publications, etc) funded by regional SLM initiatives agreed in the TerrAfrica work program
- **Definitions of land use pressures, state and responses**
 - Help identify an expert for the small experts consultation workshops in March and June 2006
- **Assessment of the nature and extent of barriers and bottlenecks to scaling up SLM at country level**
 - Provide support for:
 - Conducting country readiness assessment
 - Securing country ownership of the assessment content, recommendations and conclusions
- **SLM investment prioritization modalities**
 - Assist with:
 - Establishing a lean peer review process for investment planning
 - Formulating and implementing the SLM-related investment frameworks and prioritization modalities used by TerrAfrica partners
- **Development of programming frameworks**
 - Provide assistance for formulating an appropriate project development framework and mechanism with embedded M&E system

DELIVERABLES

Deliverables from the above activities will include:

- Finalized terms of reference for the Africa-based SLM specialist for the TerrAfrica partnership and the successful recruitment of the specialist
- Successful organization of the SAG and delivery of the finalized draft country readiness criteria/modalities for engagement for review to the TerrAfrica Executive Committee
- A capacity building strategy and implementation plan available for TerrAfrica, CAADP and the NEPAD Environment Plan
- Country program readiness criteria/modalities for engagement finalized and adopted
- Completed joint portfolio review
- Interim governance arrangements for emerging regional SLM initiatives under TerrAfrica set up and operational by the end of Feb 2006
- Final governance arrangements for emerging regional SLM initiatives set up and operational by July 2006
- Services of expert consultants secured
- Two workshop reports produced by the end of July 2006
- Communication strategy and products posted on the TerrAfrica website and disseminated via partner channels (Strategy developed by June 2006 and products developed and ready for dissemination by October 2006)
- Stakeholder involvement plan produced by June 2006
- At least three country readiness assessments completed on the TerrAfrica Focal points
- A program level monitoring and evaluation system developed for SLM investments by July 2006

REPORTING

The consultant will be required to submit draft phases in relation to the above activities and respond to supervisor feedback. Timelines as relate to the delivery of draft and final versions of the above deliverables will be negotiated at the outset of the project.

SELECTION CRITERIA

The selected candidate will possess the following qualifications:

- Master's degree in land management, development economics, international or environmental public policy, or agricultural/environmental sciences with at least two years of relevant experience
- Previous work experience within a multilateral or an international non-governmental organization would be highly desirable
- Strong organizational, research, team-building and oral presentation skills

- Proven ability to work in a team and in a politically sensitive inter-cultural environment, with minimal supervision
- Computer skills (e.g., Microsoft office) essential
- Good oral and written communication skills in English
- Working knowledge of either French or Portuguese would be helpful

DURATION

The consultancy appointments will be for a twelve month period.

Interested candidates should send their application and a detailed CV by E-mail, clearly marked for the position being applied for marked for the attention of Mrs Faith Ramusetheli by e-mail to edrecruit@nepad.org by no later than 5 May 2006. Please note that applications received after the 5 May 2006 will not be considered. Should you not receive a response to your application by 31 May 2006 please consider your application unsuccessful.