



Issued on: 27 May 2011

Deadline For Application: 24 June 2011

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<b>POSITION TITLE:</b>	<b>Credit and Rural Finance Officer</b>	<b>GRADE LEVEL:</b>	<b>P-4</b>
		<b>DUTY STATION:</b>	<b>Rome</b>
<b>ORGANIZATIONAL UNIT:</b>	<b>Africa Service (TCIA)</b>	<b>DURATION *:</b>	<b>Fixed Term: 3 years</b>
	Investment Centre Division (TCI)	<b>POST CODE/N°:</b>	<b>0024007</b>
	Technical Cooperation Department (TC)	<b>CCOG CODE:</b>	<b>1A01e</b>

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**Applications from qualified women as well as from qualified nationals of non-and under-represented member countries are encouraged**

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#### DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

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The Investment Centre Division (TCI) promotes investment in agriculture and rural development in developing countries and countries in transition, assisting governments, international financing institutions and other development partners to achieve and sustain growth, poverty alleviation and food security.

Under the overall guidance of the Director, TCI, and under the direct supervision of the Chief, TCIA, the incumbent will be responsible for the rural credit and finance aspects of agriculture and rural development operations in the French-speaking countries of sub-Saharan Africa. In particular, the incumbent will:

- lead or participate in identification and formulation missions for investment projects and programmes;
- formulate feasibility strategies for agricultural production investments to enhance their contribution to poverty reduction;
- analyse rural finance systems to promote best practices under current policies and regulations;
- identify innovative financial services adapted to the demand of rural promoters and likely to contribute to their sustainable autonomy;
- evaluate the performance of institutions involved in the mobilization of savings, the granting of credit or other financial services in rural areas, including national development banks and development funds, and make recommendations for their improvement;
- assess the need for reform of legislative or institutional policies to support the development of rural finance systems in the agricultural sector;
- evaluate the results of investment projects or programmes during their implementation and their impacts after completion; formulate recommendations for subsequent investments;
- assess the impacts of investments, agriculture and rural development policies and national plans and programmes of poverty reduction and food security;
- liaise with senior officials, development partners and beneficiaries to facilitate the exchange of essential information and to validate conclusions and recommendations concerning investment proposals;
- perform other related duties as required.

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#### MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

*Candidates should meet the following:*

- Advanced university degree in economics, public administration, development project management, or closely related field
- Seven years of relevant experience in identification and preparation of investment operations in agricultural and rural development and in the analysis of rural finance practices in developing countries and/or in countries in transition, in particular in French-speaking countries of Africa
- Working knowledge of French and limited knowledge of English

#### SELECTION CRITERIA

*Candidates will be assessed against the following:*

- Extent and relevance of experience in participating in and/or leading multidisciplinary teams charged with formulating investment operations in agriculture and rural development
- Extent and relevance of experience in implementing and evaluating investment operations
- Good understanding of sectoral policies of rural development and of the legal framework regulating the finance sector of the agriculture/rural economy, in particular in the areas of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and of the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS)
- Extent and relevance of experience in liaising with senior officials, development partners and beneficiaries in the context of investment operations
- Good oral and written communication skills
- Good knowledge of Africa and in particular of the French-speaking countries and/or comparable areas

**N.B. Willingness to travel frequently to developing countries and/or countries in transition**

*Please note that all candidates should possess computer/word processing skills and should be capable of working with people of different national and cultural backgrounds.*

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

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#### REMUNERATION

A competitive compensation and benefits package is offered. For information on UN salaries, allowances and benefits, click on the following link: <http://icsc.un.org/>

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#### TO APPLY: Carefully read and follow the **Guidelines to applicants**

Send your application to:

V.A 2548-TCI  
Director, Investment Centre Division (TCI)  
FAO Viale delle Terme di Caracalla 00153 Rome ITALY  
Fax No: +39 06 570 54657

E-mail: VA-2548-TCI@fo.org

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