Title: Topic Analyst (Short Term Consultant - STC)

Organization: World Bank

Location: Washington DC, United States

Project/activity name: Enabling the Business of Agriculture – Access to Water

Project Description

Achieving transformative agriculture growth is a key global development objective, and bolstering the emergence and growth of the commercial agriculture sector plays a pivotal role. For governments to formulate, implement and update policies and legislation that support the agricultural sector, there needs to be an in-depth understanding of factors beyond the farm gate. To support the agenda of strengthening the commercial agriculture sector, the World Bank Agriculture Global Practice and the Global Indicators and Analysis Department (GIA) have partnered to implement the Enabling the Business of Agriculture (EBA) program, specifically by generating information which will enable policy makers to make more informed choices as they go forward. The program combines the annual monitoring of comparative indicators across countries with periodic studies covering broader policy related issues and performance parameters identified as particularly critical. Special attention is given to those issues which are judged to be restricting the growth and development of the broader agriculture sector, and in particular of the family farming sector in developing countries.

The project has been implemented in 40 countries and will cover a total of 60 countries globally in 2016. In combination with in-house legal analysis, the project relies on questionnaires administered to a number of key contributors in different sectors. Within each of the topic areas, listed below, legal, regulatory and market elements that foster successful agricultural development will be identified and measured, while a broader scope of issues will provide additional analysis of the sector, helping to track the impact of policies over time. Some of the areas that are being studied, monitored and analyzed are:

- Land tenure
- Access to finance
- Rural electricity
- Information and communication technology
- Inputs, such as seed, water, fertilizer and machinery
- Transport
- Access to domestic markets and cross border regional trade
- Contract farming
- Gender issues
- Environmental sustainability
- Livestock

Among these topics, the stated objective of the Access to Water topic team is to inform and
encourage policy and regulatory decisions that support inclusive, efficient and sustainable governance for the allocation and utilization of water resources for agriculture.

Scope of Work

The STC will join the Access to Water topic team within the EBA project. S/he will provide assistance to the team in support of the following activities:

- Collecting information and analyzing legal frameworks for a subset of project countries:
  - Familiarizing quickly with the technical and legal aspects impacting access to water for agriculture, particularly in the context of developing countries.
  - Conducting legal, policy, and numerical analysis of collected information.
  - Administering communications with in-country contributors.
- Carrying out technical and country background research on water resources to supplement primary data collection and legal analysis.
- Participating in and supporting multidisciplinary project activities, including background research for topic strategy development, data management, project dissemination, reporting, presentations, etc.

The position requires a mix of legal, operational and analytical skills, as well as the demonstrated ability to work harmoniously in a team and meet deadlines. A high level of work product quality is critical.

Selection Criteria

- Advanced degree in a related field, such as law, agricultural economics, economics, environmental science, agriculture or food science. Two years of relevant experience in research, analysis and/or operations.
- Experience with or exposure to water, environment, and agriculture issues.
- Experience with data management and analysis, and advanced knowledge of Microsoft Excel.
- Well-developed interpersonal and team working skills; ability to operate effectively as a team member; methodical, proactive and positive attitude.
- Ability to perform multiple tasks in a fast-moving environment.
- Excellent oral and written communication skills in English. Fluency in one or more additional languages useful for project implementation preferred (French, Spanish, Russian).

Contract period: Starting late 2015 - TBD (max 150 days)
Post Location: World Bank HQ, Washington DC, USA
Application deadline: September 30, 2015 – 17:00 EST

Application information

Interested individuals should send their CV to Mr. Bill Garthwaite at wgarthwaite@worldbank.org with the subject title ‘EBA Water STC application.’