

UNOPS helps its partners in the United Nations system meet the world's needs for building peace, recovering from disaster, and creating sustainable development. UNOPS is known for its ability to implement complex projects in all types of environments around the globe. In an effort to promote organizational excellence, UNOPS seeks highly qualified individuals for the following position:

Vacancy Details

Vacancy Code	UNOPS/2011/AFO/KEOC/PRJ/027
Post Title	Climate Resilient Livelihood Expert (Livestock Specialist)
Post Level	Individual Contractor Agreement
Project Title	Addressing Climate Change Adaptation and Sustainable Use of Resources in Rural Areas of Kenya Through the Eco-village Model
Duty Station	Nairobi, Kenya (with extensive field visits)
Duration	1 month
Closing Date	25th October 2011

Background

The Ministry of Environment and Mineral Resources in partnership with UNOPS Kenya office has designed a project aimed at climate change adaptation and sustainable use of natural resources in rural areas of Kenya through the eco-village model. Climate change is one the greatest challenges facing the world today and Kenya is already experiencing the impact of climate change as witnessed in the constant drought occurrences as well as floods, crop failure and environmental degradation through deforestation among others.

The project introduces the eco-villages, which have been named in the United Nations' top 100 listing of Best Practices as excellent models of sustainable living. Eco-villages are human settlements in which human activities are integrated into the natural environment with minimal harm, while considering economic, social and environmental principles. This proposed response not only brings climate change adaptation and environmental sustainability to the grassroots and community level, but also encourages sustainable livelihoods.

The project will mitigate climate change associated risks to food security and livelihoods in 50 vulnerable communities established as a network of eco-villages. Given the scope of the project, implementation will be performed in three successive phases: i) feasibility and preparatory assessment phase ii) a pilot phase on 5 selected villages iii) a roll out phase to the 50 foreseen eco-villages. The selected candidate will be part of a team of technical experts who will complete the first phase of this project, the feasibility and preparatory assessment phase. The second and third phase of this project will be implemented once the required additional funding is secured.

Duties and Responsibilities

Under the direct supervision of designated official at UNOPS, the selected candidate will be an expert on livelihood assessments and livestock and must have a strong knowledge of climate change adaptation programming with respect to this area of expertise, ideally in the Kenyan context. A sound knowledge of the other components of the project (alternative energy, livelihoods, water management, and agriculture) and work experience on similar projects would also be beneficial. The Livelihoods / Livestock Specialist is required to perform the following duties and responsibilities:

- Work with the project team towards determining:
 - A locally suitable model for eco-villages that include adaptation to climate change as a core element
 - A selection of suitable sites for pilot villages
- Provide technical knowledge on animal breeding practices, livestock management / health, and commercial chain and how these may be affected by climate change
- Provide technical guidance in the broader areas of livelihood program identification and assessment in the face of climate change and its impact on food security.
- Provide cross-sectoral technical support to all other project members
- Actively participate in planned workshops by providing concrete technical recommendations for survey design; potential assessment locations; a sound community approach; identification of risks / challenges and mitigations.
- Develop a succinct, quality report that covers:
 - All above indicated livestock related components of a model for eco-villages
 - Recommendations, agreed
 - with other technical members of the project team, on locations of pilot eco-villages
 - Analysis and detailed description of how pastoralists and households can be more adapted to climate change variations, including associated costs
 - Cost estimates for both infrastructure and software components
 - A determination of whether the livestock component is a useful, cost-effective, and environmentally sound part of this project
 - Assist with review relevant sections of existing logical framework

Required Selection Criteria

Competency

- Extensive knowledge, experience and skills in livelihood / livestock programming, particularly assessment experience
- Demonstrated experience in livelihood field studies /research
- Sound understanding of livestock systems in Kenya and their role in rural livelihoods, particularly in vulnerable communities and groups
- An understanding of rural development theory and practice
- Excellent communication skills in English with Swahili as an added advantage
- Ability to work as part of a team in a fast-paced professional environment
- Excellent conceptual, analytical and English writing skills
- Excellent time management skills, with an ability to deliver high-quality outputs on time
- Very good computer skills including use of technical software for planning / training purposes
- Willingness to travel extensively in rural areas

Academic Qualifications/Experience/Language

- Advanced University degree in veterinary science, animal production, animal nutrition, agricultural economics, and natural resources. Additional years of relevant work experience, preferably in combination with a relevant bachelor's degree, may substitute for the requirement for a master's degree management or any other relevant area
- At least 5 years extensive experience in the assessment and support of communal livelihoods (ideally in the Kenyan context)
- Experience in livestock research/development or in livestock direct program implementation
- Ability to assess livelihood assets and their vulnerability to present and future climate impacts
- Experience in the design and implementation of different livelihood measures at community level
- Familiarity with, and up-to-date knowledge on, various international efforts in livelihood diversification to deal with different environmental and climatic stresses including variability
- Livestock management experience in Kenya including processing and marketing
- The candidate must be thoroughly proficient in written and spoken English.

Submission of Applications

Candidates are strongly requested to carefully review the application guidelines below, incomplete documents and/or submissions not meeting the application guidelines will not be considered.

Interested candidates must submit their applications, including

1. Letter of interest
2. Complete Curriculum Vitae
3. Complete, updated and signed United Nations P.11 form

All of the above required documents must be sent via e-mail to vacancieskeoc@unops.org. Kindly indicate the vacancy number and the post title in the subject line when applying by email.

The body of the email must include the table below with responses in the exact format.

Last name:	
First name:	
Highest completed educational qualification:	
Exact years of experience relevant to the assignment	
Experience with the United Nations (Yes/No). If yes, specify name of agency, Fund or Programme and exact years of relevant experience:	
Professional qualification and/or experience	

UNOPS reserve the right to reject any application without the above format in the submission email.

Additional Considerations

- Applications received after the closing date will not be considered.
- Only those candidates that are short-listed for interviews will be notified.
- Qualified female candidates are strongly encouraged to apply.
- UNOPS reserves the right to appoint a candidate at a level below the advertised level of the post.

For more information on UNOPS, including its core values and competencies, please visit the UNOPS website at www.unops.org.