



TURKEY - Technical Assistance and Data Collection for Strengthening the Statistical Capacity of the MARA (The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs)

ICstat has been short-listed as leader of an international consortium for the EC funded project "Turkey – Technical Assistance and Data Collection for Strengthening the Statistical Capacity of the MARA (the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs)".

The deadline to submit the candidatures is on July 19th 2010 at 5.00pm (Italian time).
The intended commencement date is November 2010 and the period of execution of the contract will be 17 months from this date.

Overall objective

The overall objective of the project is to contribute to the harmonization with the acquis on statistics, particularly by improving the capacity at selected data providers other than TurkStat.

Purpose

The purpose is to improve quality of the statistical data provided by MARA by means of elaborating an action plan, conducting training organizations, introducing new methodologies on early estimation of yield, improving knowledge of staff on survey design and collection of more reliable data in line with EU methods.

Project description

The Project mainly focuses on:

- The identification of the current situation of Turkish Agricultural Statistical System, analyzing and improving the situation
- The conduction of trainings and technical support whose aim is to make contribution to the harmonization of Turkey to EU Agricultural Statistical System.

The activities to manage the above aim comprises of survey design, sampling techniques, establishment of sampling frame, usage of farm registry as sampling frame, questionnaire design, elaboration of manuals, application of questionnaire, early estimation methods for several selected products (wheat, maize and olive), data collection by new and objective techniques, data mining and trainings.

By the end of the project, MARA staff will be competent in the field of agricultural statistics system and survey design. Hence, this will be used for the future surveys and data collection in line with the EU standards and more accurate data will be able to be collected. On the other hand, the impact of the project is not confined with the staff of MARA. Statistical data is vital for every sector to achieve progress. This aim can be managed through qualified survey designs and statistical knowledge. In order to improve the agricultural sector by using efficient agricultural policies, agricultural statistics need to be accessible and reliable. Afterwards, such data can be used while forming a credible frame of reference for the sector.

Four long term Key Experts are foreseen

Key experts must spend minimum 90 % of their total working days in Turkey with beneficiary. The profiles of the key experts for this contract are:

Key expert 1: Team Leader

The Team Leader (TL) will primarily be responsible for overall management of the project. This responsibility will include development of work plans and implementation schedules, monitoring of project activities, concerting the efforts for the facilitating discussions on, development and finalizations of contractual reports as described in the ToR and as per EU procedures. On behalf of the Technical Assistance Team (TAT), s/he will be the direct counterpart of Project Management Unit.

At the technical front, Team Leader's inputs will be on the policy level. To that end, s/he will work crossly with the executives of the governmental and non-governmental organizations. S/he will also be responsible for the interaction between the key experts, other experts and the beneficiary.

Qualifications and skills

- University degree (of at least 4 years) preferably in statistics, agricultural economics and agricultural engineering or equivalent;
- Good command of English (speaking, reading and writing);
- Full computer literacy;
- Masters and/or PhD degree in relevant areas will be an asset.

General professional experience

- Preferably 15 years but at least 10 years of professional experience;
- Experience in the implementation of EU funded technical assistance projects in the field of agriculture or agricultural statistics or any other relevant field;
- Experience in at least one EU funded project as Team Leader.

Specific professional experience

- Preferably 5 years but at least 3 years of experience in survey and data processing;
- Knowledge of Acquis Communautaire in field of statistics will be an asset.

Key expert 2: Statistical Survey Expert

Expert shall support the TL and shall be mainly responsible for the following statistical survey issues:

- Whole enumeration method;
- Agricultural surveys techniques and survey design;
- Sampling techniques in agricultural surveys especially for Farm Accountancy Data Network system.

Qualifications and skills

- University degree (of at least 4 years) preferably in agriculture and statistics or equivalent;
- Good command of English (speaking, reading and writing);
- Full computer literacy;
- Masters and/or PhD degree in relevant areas will be an asset.

General professional experience

- Preferably 7 years but at least 5 years of professional experience in agricultural statistics.

Specific professional experience

- Experience in sample selection processes in the agricultural sector;
- Experience in analyzing statistical data;
- Experience in statistical survey implementations;
- Experience in an EU funded project as Key Expert will be an asset.

Key expert 3: EU Agricultural Statistics System Expert

Expert shall support the TL and shall be mainly responsible for the following statistical issues:

- Compiling of agricultural data especially for maize and wheat;
- Agricultural early yield estimation techniques such as crop cutting.

Qualifications and skills

- University degree (of at least 4 years) preferably in agricultural engineering or equivalent;
- Good command of English (speaking, reading and writing);
- Full computer literacy;
- Masters and/or PhD degree in relevant areas will be an asset.

General professional experience

- Preferably 10 years but at least 6 years experience in the field of agriculture.

Specific professional experience

- Preferably 7 years but at least 4 years experience in analyzing statistical data;
- Experience in an EU funded project as Key Expert will be an asset;
- Experience in early yield estimation;
- Experience in remote sensing;
- Experience in statistics system of EU is required;
- Knowledge on IACS (Integrated Administration and Control System) will be an asset.

Key expert 4: Statistics Expert

Expert shall support the TL and shall be mainly responsible for the following statistical issues:

- Compiling and evaluating of statistical data;
- Statistical analysis;
- Training of software for statistical analysis;
- Establishment of farm register.

Qualifications and skills

- University degree (of at least 4 years) in statistics or equivalent;
- Masters and/or PhD degree in relevant areas will be an asset;
- Good command of English (speaking, reading and writing);
- Full computer literacy;
- Turkish knowledge will be an asset.

General professional experience

- Preferably 10 years but at least 7 years experience in statistics preferably in agricultural statistics.

Specific professional experience

- At least 5 years experience on statistical package programmes;
- Experience in statistical training;
- Experience in Farm Registry Systems and how to establish the system and data entry program;
- Experience in analyzing statistical data;
- Experience in statistical data confidentiality and dissemination of statistical data.

To put forward your candidature by July 19th 2010 at 5.00pm (Italian time = GMT +2), please, contact Ms. Rachele Bimbi at rbimbi@icstat.org and Mr. Angelo Mingiano at amingiano@icstat.org.