



# UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

Programme des Nations Unies pour l'environnement      Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Medio Ambiente

Программа Организации Объединенных Наций по окружающей среде      برنامج الأمم المتحدة للبيئة

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## VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(Issued: 12 February 2009)

<b>VACANCY NOTICE NO.:</b>	NA-09-10
<b>ORGANIZATIONAL LOCATION:</b>	UNEP/DTIE
<b>DUTY STATION:</b>	Paris
<b>FUNCTIONAL TITLE:</b>	Programme Officer (Agri-food)
<b>GRADE:</b>	L-3
<b>POST NUMBER:</b>	NF/4020-08-62-1101 (605416)
<b>DURATION:</b>	18 months
<b>CLOSING DATE:</b>	12 March 2009

### Background:

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) is the United Nations system's designated entity for addressing environmental issues at the global and regional level. Its mandate is to coordinate the development of environmental policy consensus by keeping the global environment under review and bringing emerging issues to the attention of governments and the international community for action. UNEP's Division of Technology, Industry and Economics (DTIE) works with international governments and non-governmental organizations, national and local governments, business and industry to develop and implement policies, strategies and practices that are cleaner and safer, incorporate environmental costs, use natural resources efficiently, reduce pollution and risks for humans and the environment, and enable the implementation of conventions and international agreements. The post is located in UNEP/DTIE in Paris, France.

### Duties and Responsibilities:

Under the supervision of the Head of the Goods and Services Unit, located in the Sustainable Consumption and Production Branch, the programme officer will develop and coordinate activities to promote sustainable consumption and production of both agricultural and fisheries products. Much of this work will focus on supporting the design and application of business-to-business and public-private partnerships and consumer information tools and other economic and trade-related instruments to establish more sustainable agri-food supply chains, and expand or establish new markets for sustainable food products originating from developing countries. There will be a strong focus on the engagement of the private sector.

The programme officer will undertake other activities related to sustainable consumption and production of food products, including on developing public-private partnerships to reduce nutrient pollution of water bodies associated with farming and food processing. The officer will also develop UNEP's work on resource efficiency in the food sector more generally, and ensure close cooperation and coordination with other relevant UNEP Branches and Divisions, notably the Economics and Trade Branch and Division on Environmental Policy Implementation. The officer will organise conferences and workshops as required to advance the projects and activities set out below.

Specific activities will include the following.

1. Coordinate and execute the project on "Establishing sustainable, resource efficient food supply chains", in collaboration with the Economics and Trade Branch of DTIE, and relevant national authorities and UN agencies, engaging the private sector and relevant research institutes and NGOs:
    - Identify agricultural and wild-caught seafood products produced in a country or a sub-region whose production, processing and/or trade currently entails inefficient resource use and related negative environmental impacts, and which make a major contribution to the national or sub-regional economy;
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- In consultation with key stakeholders, including primary producers, processors, governments, trading companies and retailers, develop policies and actions (public, private and voluntary) in one agricultural and one fisheries supply chain, to increase resource efficiency and communicate the gains from this to consumers;
  - Develop the criteria for assessing resource efficiency, as well as sustainable trade patterns, in the production and supply chain management associated with each commodity, drawing on objective research, analysis and existing regulations, voluntary standards and guidelines. Take into account the special needs of small-scale producers and the effects on community development, as well as gender aspects.
  - Based on those criteria, guidelines and voluntary standards, assist partners on associated financial, technical assistance and training activities to modify production, processing and supply chain management approaches and communicate associated environmental and social gains to consumers.
  - Support the forum with retailers and consumer organisations, and based on the results of the activities in these two supply chains promote the replication of this approach in other food supply chains.
2. Co-manage a project with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) based on partnerships with the companies along the agri-food supply chains, and relevant public sector and civil society organizations, to identify and apply best practices, tools and technologies to reduce nutrient over-enrichment of transboundary waters. This will include:
- Undertake activities to support the multi-stakeholder partnership to make financial and technical investments and apply management practices to reduce nutrient losses from the supply chain, and encourage governments to apply supportive public policies (eg on nutrient management, support for low-input and integrated agricultural systems, control of pollution and effluents from processing industries);
  - consolidating knowledge of nutrient over-enrichment, and the significance of practices and sources associated with the agrifood supply chains; and
  - developing integrated nutrient management guidelines in close collaboration/coordination with and for private enterprises in agricultural product supply chains.
3. Explore and develop opportunities to expand UNEP's work to promote resource efficiency and SCP in the food sector, in particular that derived from agriculture. In addition to developing policies and measures which enhance the resource efficiency of whole supply chains, such a programme could include:
- working with the private sector on business models, management approaches and partnerships which favour selection of sustainably produced agri-food products in business-to-business transactions;
  - developing actions and measures focusing on increasing resource efficiency in food processing / consumption / recycling, building on UNEP's work on Life Cycle Management and Corporate Social Responsibility; and
  - supporting the design and implementation of market-based tools, including ecolabels and fair-trade schemes, to help consumers select more resource efficient and sustainable food products.
4. Prepare briefing notes and advice on policies, appropriate private sector actions and investments and potential UNEP interventions to promote resource efficiency and SCP in food supply chains.
- Establish and maintain the webpage on promoting SCP in the agri-food sector, within the UNEP-DTIE website.
  - Ensure the wide dissemination of project results and feed them into other relevant UNEP activities contributing to resource efficiency and other thematic priorities under the Medium Term Strategy.
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### Qualifications and Experience:

#### A. Education:

Advanced university degree in economics, business and public policies, sustainable development, agriculture and/or environmental studies; or a first degree in one of these areas combined with relevant professional experience and other formal qualifications.

#### B. Experience and Knowledge:

At least five years work experience in the area of sustainable development, out of which at least two years should be at the international level. Familiarity with resource efficiency issues in agricultural production, preferably extending to food processing steps in the life cycle of products. Knowledge of sustainability issues in fisheries management and of the UN system is an advantage. Experience in developing countries is important.

Knowledge of the resource use and broader environmental implications of food production and processing methods is required. This should include an understanding of private and public sector responses to these challenges.

#### C. Competencies and Skills:

##### Planning and organizing

Ability to identify priority activities and assignments, allocation of appropriate amount of time and resources for completing work. Experience in project management, the organisation of multi-stakeholder workshops and related administrative work would be a strong advantage.

##### Communication

Excellent communication skills, written and spoken as well as ability to draft or edit a variety of written reports in English (French is desirable), including summaries and briefing notes. Ability to ask questions to clarify, exhibiting interest in having two-way communication; demonstrates openness in sharing information and keeping people informed.

**Teamwork:** Works collaboratively with UNEP colleagues to achieve organizational goals; proactively develops partnerships with other institutions, public and private, securing effective cooperation; solicits input by genuinely valuing others' ideas and expertise; is willing to learn from others, and able to work in multi-cultural, multi-ethnic environment, working with transparency and building trust and confidence with colleagues and staff members.

#### D. Other Desirable Skills:

Strong research and analytical skills are required, combining economic, environmental and developmental perspectives, and an appreciation of the challenges faced by small-scale producers and processors in developing countries.

The incumbent should have demonstrable experience with fostering co-operation among public officials, private enterprises and other relevant stakeholders and experts. Good computer skills are required.

#### E. Language Requirements:

English and French are the working languages of the United Nations Secretariat. For this position fluency in written and spoken English is essential; ability to work in French (written and spoken) is desirable. Working knowledge of other UN official languages is an advantage.

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Interested applicants are requested to send a detailed curriculum vitae including date of birth, nationality, educational qualifications, a summary of professional skills and/or expertise, a summary of relevant work experience, publications written, and languages spoken, or to complete a United Nations Personal History form (P.11), available on UNEP website at: [www.unep.org/vacancies](http://www.unep.org/vacancies).

Depending on professional background, experience and family situation, a competitive compensation and benefits package is offered.

See UN website [http://www.un.org/Depts/OHRM/salaries\\_allowances/index.html](http://www.un.org/Depts/OHRM/salaries_allowances/index.html).

### **Preference will be given to equally qualified women candidates.**

Staff members are subject to the authority of the Secretary-General and to assignment by him or her. In this context, all staff are expected to move periodically to new functions in their careers in accordance with established rules and procedures.

All applications to be sent to the following address on or before the deadline:

Head, Goods and Services Unit,  
Sustainable & Consumption Branch  
Division of Technology, Industry and Economics  
15 Rue de Milan  
75441 Paris Cedex 09

Email: [unep.tie@unep.fr](mailto:unep.tie@unep.fr)

**Deadline for applications: 12 March 2009**

**PLEASE QUOTE VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT NO.: NA-09-10**