



United Nations Development Programme
Drylands Development Centre

Terms of Reference for Internship for Drought and Crisis Practice Note
and for PFI for Drylands / East Africa

Background

The Drylands Development Centre in Nairobi, Kenya is one of the three UNDP Thematic Centres around the world. The Drylands Development Centre specializes in assisting countries to fight poverty and encourage development in the drier parts of the world. The Centre provides UNDP programme countries with programme development support, policy advice, strengthens institutional capacity, generates knowledge and promotes learning, builds partnerships and promotes global awareness of drylands issues. This support is provided through UNDP country offices.

In 2002, the Drylands Development Centre launched a new integrated drylands development programme that is being piloted in 16 countries in Africa and the Arab States. The integrated programme focuses on: (i) mainstreaming drylands issues into macro-economic frameworks; (ii) reducing vulnerability to climatic shocks and improving adaptation to climate change; and (iii) improving local governance for natural resource management.

Justification

DDC is currently engaged in an extensively collaborative process of development of a Practice Note on Drought and Crisis. This involves identifying and consulting with experts in the field, particularly outside of UNDP, who provide feedback which needs to be incorporated in successive iterations. This will include the identification and maintenance of a virtual panel of experts who represent a core group amidst the others who will have agreed to help shepherd the process through to the final product. This task is currently being carried out by a consultant whose contract expires on Oct 30, 2003. A second task for the intern will be to assist in developing a project proposal for "Promoting Farmer Innovations in Drylands - East Africa", as a follow up on preparatory work made by the latest intern at DDC.

Objectives of the Internship

The intern will be substantively involved in the process of managing the feedback regarding and consequentially the updating of the Drought and Crisis Practice Note. This will be of benefit both to the intern, who will get substantive involvement in a major piece of policy work, as well as to DDC. This involves identifying and consulting with experts in the field, particularly outside of UNDP, who provide feedback which needs to be incorporated in successive iterations. This will include the identification and maintenance of a virtual panel of experts who represent a core group amidst the others who will have agreed to help shepherd the process through to the final product.



In addition to this, the intern will assist in backstopping the process of realizing the new phase of Promoting Farmer Innovation (PFI). The PFI, which was funded by the Government of Netherlands, was piloted in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda and aimed at identifying farmer innovators whose ideas were disseminated through farmer-to-farmer extension and farmer exchange visits. Now the UNDP Drylands Development Centre is working on a follow up on this initiative, called Promoting Farmer Innovation in Drylands - East Africa (PFID-EA) and there is need for assistance. The intern would carry out research and support the Programme Officer in preparing a project proposal. She/he would also assist in finding relevant information about potential donors for the PFID-EA.

More specifically, the intern would undertake the following:

1. Take over the practical activities of the Practice Note consultative preparation process, as described above, from the consultant
2. Depending on the background of the intern, to contribute conceptually to the Practice Note
3. Take primary responsibility for the non content related editing work of the document
4. Get acquainted with PFI and the proposed PFID-EA through studies and field visits, budget permitting.
5. Carry out research about donor profiles in conjunction with DDC staff and match them with PFID-EA and eventually also with other ongoing DDC project proposals.
6. Assist DDC staff in correspondance with donors about the proposal/s.
7. Perform background studies on PFID-EA on demand, as well as participate and report back from relevant workshops, meetings, seminars etc.
8. Assist in completing the PFID-EA proposal.

The following qualifications, skills and knowledge:

Currently undertaking or having completed a Masters level degree, preferably with either a first or higher degree in natural or environmental science and with a good understanding of land use issues in their social and political contexts and specifically in developing countries. Specific knowledge of the particular issues facing dry areas an advantage. Knowledge and/or experience in relief work also an advantage. Ideally field level experience in dry areas of developing countries. Demonstrated ability to undertake research, analyse, compile and synthesize information. Excellent writing and editing skills in English (native speaker preferred); and ability to work effectively under pressure in a team and multicultural environment. Understanding of French would be an asset. Should be available as soon as possible.



Timelines and Supervision

- Preferably the intern will start the internship in November 2003.
- The time for the internship is *at least* six months.
- A Drylands Development Centre's Policy Advisor will supervise the work of the intern.

Application

Interested candidates should email their particulars to internship.ddc@undp.org
Only qualified candidates will be considered.