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# Food and Agriculture organization of the United Nations

### **Terms of Reference for Interns**

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| **Name:** |  | | | | | |
| **Job Title:** | Internship in the Secretariat of One Country One Priority Product (OCOP) Initiative | | | | | |
| **Division/Office:** | | Plant Production and Protection Division (NSP) | | | | |
| **Duty Station:** | FAO HQRome, Italy | | | | | |
| **Linkage to FAO’s Four Betters:** | PPA Better production BP.1: Innovation for Sustainable Agriculture Production | | | | | |
| **Start Date of Assignment:** 01 July 2025 | | |  | **Duration and**  **End Date:** | | 6 months  31 December 2025 |
| **Report to, name of supervisor:**  Hafiz Muminjanov | | |  | **Title:** Technical Adviser, NSP | |  |
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| General Description of task(s) and objectives to be achieved | | | | | | |
| |  | | --- | | **Background:**  FAO launched the One Country One Priority Product (OCOP) initiative in September 2021 to address the current and recurring challenges of hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition as well as to contribute to the development of smallholders and family farms, amongst other strategic objectives, through the promotion of sustainable value chain of Special Agricultural Products (SAPs). The SAPs have unique qualities and special characteristics that are associated with economic value, geographical locations, farming practices and cultural heritages. Compared to staple food products, SAPs have not yet fully benefited from agricultural and rural development programs, and include all kinds of agricultural products, with the potential of being utilized and promoted in local, national, regional and global markets. Therefore, the OCOP supports countries leverage their unique potential by identifying relevant SAPs and ensuring improved access to stable markets, opportunities to improve farmers’ livelihoods, and entry points for reaching their defined country priorities.  As of January 2025, 91 countries from all five FAO regions have committed to promoting the sustainable development of 55 SAPs. To demonstrate the potential of the initiative, the first five OCOP Demonstration Country Projects were launched in 2023 in Bangladesh, Egypt, Malawi, Trinidad and Tobago and Uzbekistan. In 2024, 11 additional OCOP country demonstration projects were launched to further demonstrate the sustainable development potential of their selected SAPs.  In this context, the intern will not only support the operationalization of the OCOP projects in 16 demonstration countries but also assist in the coordination of the OCOP global initiative, gaining insights into multi-level processes ranging from national projects to regional to global events. The intern will work within the multidisciplinary team of the OCOP Secretariat under the supervision of Mr. Hafiz Muminjanov, Technical Advisor, NSP. |   **Duties and Responsibilities:**  Under the overall supervision of the Director of Plant Production and Protection Division (NSP) and the direct supervision of the NSP Technical Adviser, in close collaboration with the Secretariat of the One Country One Priority Product (OCOP) initiative, the incumbent will:   1. Preparation, coordination of organisation and technical supervision of technical webinars to promote SAPs within the OCOP community. 2. Support the organization of regional and global meetings and events such as the global OCOP Exhibition during the World Food Forum 2025, by developing promotional materials, drafting talking points, and carrying out background research for these meetings. 3. Support the communication specialist in raising awareness and advocating for the promotion of the OCOP Initiative. 4. Drafting project concept notes and documents and provide technical support for the development of VC analysis in the OCOP demonstration countries. 5. Perform other duties related to this assignment. | | | | | | |
| key performance indicators | | | | | | |
| **Expected Outputs**: | | | | | Required Completion Date: | |
| 1. At least 4 technical webinars are organized. 2. Organization of the regional and global meetings, events and exhibitions are supported 3. Coordination, communication and awareness raising on OCOP are supported 4. Technical support in drafting of concept notes and VC analysis in demonstration countries provided 5. Assigned additional tasks within the mandate completed in a timely manner | | | | | 1. By 31 December 2025  2. As required throughout the contract  3. By 31 December 2025  4. By 31 December 2025  5. As required throughout the contract | |
| **REQUIRED COMPETENCIES** | | | | | | |
| **Minimum requirements:**   * Candidates must be enrolled in an under-graduate or post-graduate degree programme in a bona fide educational institution in agronomy, agribusiness, environmental science, plant sciences or in value chain analysis at the time of application, or recent graduates of such an institution. * IT skills: Excellent computer skills in MS-office applications (Word, Excel, PowerPoint). * Working knowledge (proficient – level C) of English and limited knowledge (intermediate – level B) of another FAO official language (Arabic, Chinese, French, Russian or Spanish).   **Additional Requirements:**   * Previous practical experience in project management and/or event management will be considered an asset. * The intern should have good communication and self-organization skills and work independently as an effective and integrated member of an international team. | | | | | | |
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