TERM OF REFERENCE (ToR)

RECRUITMENT OF 2025 IFAD-CHINA SCHOLARSHIP COUNCIL (CSC) INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

**Post Title:** China Scholarship Council (CSC) Intern

**Host Organization:** International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)

**Host Department/Division:** Department of Country Operations (DCO), Asia and the Pacific Region (APR)

**Duty Station:** Bangkok, Thailand

\*CSC exclusively funds on-site, full-time internships and does not support remote placements

**Duration:** Six (6) months with possibility of extension

**Expected Start Date:** August 2025

**JOB DESCRIPTION**

# ORGANIZATIONAL CONTEXT

# The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) is an International Financial Institution (IFI) and a specialized agency of the United Nations dedicated to eradicating rural poverty and hunger. IFAD achieves this mission by investing in rural communities, financing programs and projects that enhance agricultural productivity and increase rural incomes. Additionally, IFAD advocates for policies at local, national, and international levels that contribute to sustainable rural transformation.

# The Department for Country Operations (DCO) is responsible for overseeing the origination, design, and management of IFAD’s investments, including both sovereign and non-sovereign operations. It also leads the design and implementation of non-lending activities within country programs, such as policy engagement and South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC). As the primary interface with governments, the private sector, and other stakeholders, DCO ensures the effective delivery of IFAD’s program of work and maintains oversight to ensure the quality and impact of its investment portfolio.

# DCO is led by an Associate Vice-President (AVP) and is includes five (5) regional divisions: Asia and the Pacific (APR), East and Southern Africa (ESA), Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC), Near East, North Africa and Europe (NEN) and West and Central Africa (WCA) divisions, the Private Sector Operations Division (PSD), and two (2) units: the SSTS and the Fragility Unit (FRU).

# The APR regional division is led by a Divisional Director, based in IFAD’s Regional Office in Bangkok, Thailand. The division is responsible for designing and implementing IFAD’s country and regional programs in the Asia-Pacific region.

# SCOPE OF ASSIGNMENT

# Type of assignment:

# The intern will be assigned with a six (6) months internship contract, and will support IFAD’s work in the Asia Pacific Region (APR) by conducting research, data analysis, and policy reviews.

# Specific Description:

* Conduct in-depth socio-economic research at both country and regional levels, supporting the supervisor in identifying key trends, challenges, and opportunities in APR’s agrifood sector and Information and Communication Technology (ICT) -driven rural development.
* Analyze national and regional datasets to generate insights that inform project design and implementation, ensuring alignment with IFAD13 commitments.
* Identify successful projects and best practices from other financial institutions (FIs) that could be adapted and applied within IFAD’s initiatives in APR.
* Explore the use of artificial intelligence (AI) to assess various aspects of IFAD’s investment portfolio, helping to enhance efficiency and impact.
* Investigate policy frameworks, market trends, and ICT-driven innovations that can support rural SMEs in competing more effectively in modern agrifood value chains.

# EXPECTED DURATION OF ASSIGNMENT

The assignment is expected to last for six (6) months.

# QUALIFICATION/EXPERIENCE

The successful offeror shall meet the following minimum criteria:

# EDUCATION

* Level – Enrolled in graduate degree programme in a “bona fide” educational institution at the time of application or recent graduate.
* Advanced University Degree in a relevant discipline (including but not limited to Computer Science, Information Technology, Agriculture, Social or Political Sciences, Law, Economics, Public Administration, International Relations or related field relevant to the work of the Organization).
* Degree must be an accredited institution listed on <https://www.whed.net/home.php>

# EXPERIENCE

* Progressively relevant experience is desired, yet not mandatory.

# LANGUAGE

* Excellent written and verbal communication skills in English.

# FUNCTIONAL COMPETENCIES

* Academic qualifications relevant to the Organization’s areas of focus.
* Strong ability to analyze and synthesize complex information to support decision-making.
* Excellent drafting, communication and presentation skills in English.
* Strong ICT skills, with proficiency in Microsoft Office and other relevant software.

# CORE COMPETENCIES

* Results Focus
* Teamwork
* Communication
* Building Effective Relationships
* Knowledge Sharing and Continuous Improvement