

Consultancy opportunity

Researcher - Global Diagnostic on Rural Water Services

Job Title	Organisation	Type	Experience	Location	Apply by
Researcher	Skat Foundation	Consultancy	Mid-Level (5+ years) / Senior (10+ year)	Remote	8 January 2021

Background

Eight out of ten people without access to even a basic water service live in rural areas. Even those that notionally do have access to safe water often face long queues, high prices and unreliable supply. The REACH programme and RWSN are looking for ambitious researcher to help us tackle this deep-rooted problem.

REACH is a global research programme funded by the Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) and led by the University of Oxford that aims to improve water security for ten million poor people in Africa and Asia by 2024. The Rural Water Supply Network (RWSN), hosted by Skat Foundation, is the global network of more than 12,000 rural water supply professionals that has a vision of a world in which all rural people have access to sustainable and reliable water supplies, which can be effectively managed to provide sufficient, affordable and safe water within a reasonable distance of the home.

RWSN is partnering the University of Oxford under the REACH programme to administer a global diagnostic of rural water service providers. The aim of the work is to provide an evaluation of the scale and performance of rural water service providers to inform a strategy to develop results-based funding for 100 million people by 2030. The work is linked to the findings of the Uptime consortium in demonstrating results-based funding and pathways to sustainable funding to progressively meet safely-managed water goals. This Expression of Interest is to canvas initial interest and expertise from individuals or institutes with demonstrated experience in designing, administering and analysing survey data to produce high-quality reports. No experience in rural water management is required. The contract period will be February to December 2021.

The Brief

Activities and outputs

1. To lead the design, administration and analysis of a survey(s) to inform the Global Diagnostic on Rural Water Services.
2. To support the development of a typology of rural water service providers.
3. To support the Marketing Consultant and the Eastern Europe and Central Asia Consultant to reach out to rural water service providers, and service authorities, to collect and analyse existing operational and financial performance data.
4. To support the REACH-RWSN team to publish a strategy to achieve 100 million rural people with safely-managed water by 2030.

Requirements

Essential experience

- Commitment to inclusive and intercultural working practices with global partners.
- Familiarity with human subjects' ethical considerations and data protection.
- Extensive experience in data collection, management and analysis.
- Extensive experience in exploratory data analysis.
- Proven experience in writing high quality reports under strict timelines.
- Enthusiastic team-player with experience of working in a large multi stakeholder project including multiple disciplines, cultures, languages and environments.

Desired experience

- Experience in advanced data analytics, mapping and modelling, including GIS.
- Working in multiple languages and different cultures.
- Interest in public or private business management, marketing and finance.
- Familiarity with data visualisation methods and platforms, such as Tableau.

Terms of the Assignment

- Budget: £60,000 .
- Period: February to December 2021.
- Contracted to Skat Foundation as independent consultant or firm. Amount payable in UK Pounds Sterling based on invoices and delivery of outputs and intermediate milestones.

Apply

1. Send a one page proposal with CV (up to 4 pages) of the lead researcher or team, as well as a financial proposal (for a firm) or daily rate (for an individual consultant).
2. Send by email to ruralwater@skat.ch by 5pm/CET on 8 January 2021

Shortlisted candidates will be contacted to present full proposals. We strongly welcome interest from women and experts from the global south.

Links and background reading

- Uptime Working Paper (2020) [Results-Based Contracts for Rural Water Services](#)
- Uptime Working Paper (2019) [Performance-Based Funding for Reliable Rural Water Services in Africa](#)
- [REACH publications and resources](#)
- [RWSN Sustainable Services resources](#)
- UPGro findings on rural water supply [functionality](#) and [sustainability](#) in Africa
- [Fundifix](#)

REACH is managed by the [School of Geography](#), University of Oxford, Oxford UK. The RWSN Secretariat is hosted by [Skat Foundation](#), St. Gallen, Switzerland. Details subject to change.