World Vegetable Center is hiring an experienced consultant to produce instruction materials on vegetable home gardening in the tropics

**Deadline for applications:** 30 June 2020  
**Duration:** 4 months (August-December 2020), deliverable-based  
**Location:** Home-based, no travel required

**Background**

World Vegetable Center (WorldVeg) is a nonprofit, autonomous international agricultural research center with headquarters in Taiwan and regional offices around the globe. The Center conducts research, builds networks, and carries out training and promotion activities to raise awareness of the role of vegetables for improved health and global poverty alleviation. The promotion of small-scale vegetable gardens has been an effective approach to increase vegetable production and consumption at the household level with added benefits in terms of women’s empowerment and increased household resilience. In the context of food system disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the ability to successfully produce vegetables at a local household level is more important than ever. WorldVeg has implemented gardening projects in Africa and Asia for decades. Its strategic approach to vegetable gardens (formulated [here](#)) relies on stimulating the demand for and supply of vegetables at the household level with community-level support.

**Scope of the Assignment**

WorldVeg seeks to employ the services of an experienced Consultant to produce new training and instruction materials on home vegetable gardening in the tropics suitable for projects in a wide range of low- and middle-income countries. The materials will contribute to an online toolbox on vegetable gardening methods, and will draw on, streamline and improve a multiplicity of existing guides. The target audience is trainers (NGO and government staff assigned to train households on gardening) and hobby gardeners, while some tools will also be made accessible for people with low literacy skills. The products must be sensitive to gender (most trainers and trainees are usually women). The consultant
will be expected to work with WorldVeg to define the appropriate mix of written, visual, and perhaps audio-visual approaches to communicating the information.

The products must integrate practical vegetable gardening tips and skills with information about nutrition and health to raise people’s interest in eating vegetables. Key modules could include garden establishment, planting schedules, compost making, setting up a seedling nursery, planting bed preparation, crop rotation, staggered production, fence making, soil fertility management, pruning, trellising, safe pest management, water saving, sack gardens, and seed saving.

The products will be based on existing WorldVeg materials (which will be shared with the Consultant), complemented with other available resources. The products will be published under WorldVeg institutional authorship while the contributions of the Consultant will be duly acknowledged.

**Deliverables**

The Consultant is expected to deliver a range of instruction modules that become part of an online home vegetable garden toolbox (learning materials in the form of practical textbooks and audio-visual materials). The modules will be suitable for people with medium to low literacy skills. All materials will be produced in English and may later be translated into other languages as needed.

**Qualifications & Competences**

Applicants are expected to fit the following profile:

1. An experienced writer, skillful communicator and creative thinker with previous experience writing training and educational materials for an adult audience.
2. Excellent English writing skills.
3. Excellent interpersonal and communication skills to collaborate with a team of scientists towards final products.
4. Ability to deliver outputs following a time schedule that will be agreed upon at the start of the contract.

Other desirable skills:
5. A person with a strong interest, technical knowledge and practical experience in vegetable gardening in the (sub-)tropics.

6. A person with skills in graphic design and development of audio-visual materials.

We welcome applications by individual consultants, consultant teams and organizations. We particularly welcome applications of teams that combine writing skills with high quality graphic design. Technical knowledge about gardening is desirable but not a requirement.

**Terms and Conditions**

The expected duration of the assignment is 4 months and the work is expected to begin on 1 August or earlier. An attractive professional fee will be paid based on WorldVeg’s consultant engagement policy and the timely delivery of satisfactory outputs. The Consultant is not eligible for any other allowances or benefits. The Consultant can work from his or her home base and no travel is required.

**How to Apply?**

Applicants should submit an application letter explaining their suitability for and interest in the work along with a curriculum vitae, a writing sample relevant to the assignment (e.g. learning materials, brochures, video clips, book or report), salary expectation (in US$/day), and date of availability to Ms. Ying Kanokwan by email to kanokwan.rattanamung@worldveg.org. Questions regarding this assignment can be addressed by email to Dr. Pepijn Schreinemachers, Flagship Program Leader for Enabling Impact, at pepijn.schreinemachers@worldveg.org. For more information about the World Vegetable Center, please visit our website: www.worldveg.org. **Closing date to receive applications is Wednesday 30 June 2020.** Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.