

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

CGIAR Challenge Programme on “Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security”

The CGIAR¹ Challenge Programme “Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security” is a major collaborative endeavour between the international agriculture and global environmental change research communities, and their respective partners. Research will be aimed at overcoming the additional threats posed by a changing climate to achieving food security, enhancing livelihoods and improving environmental management in the developing world. The main objectives are to: (i) overcome critical gaps in knowledge of how to enhance – and manage the tradeoffs between – food security, livelihood and environmental goals in the face of a changing climate; (ii) develop and evaluate options for adapting to a changing climate to inform agricultural development, food security policy and donor investment strategies; and (iii) assist farmers, policymakers, researchers and donors to continually monitor, assess and adjust their actions in response to a changing climate. The Programme is to be launched in 2009 for a period of 10 years.

For further details of the Programme please consult:

www.cgiar.org/impact/challenge/cccp.html or www.essp.org/index.php?id=76

This new Programme is now seeking a well qualified candidate for the position of:

Director

The successful incumbent will be both an inspiring scientific leader and excellent research manager. The Director will be responsible for the coordination, overall implementation and management of this multi-institutional, interdisciplinary collaborative Programme. The activities will take place in different geographic locations over different continents with the Director taking the lead in ensuring that the Programme delivers expected results, outcomes and impacts. Working under the oversight of the Programme’s Steering Committee and leading a small (3 – 4 persons) Secretariat to assist the Programme’s Management Team, the appointee will have the following key responsibilities:

- Provide scientific leadership for planning, implementing and monitoring the Programme’s research agenda including designing research and the continual improvement of collaborative mechanisms for implementation;
- Catalyze and coordinate programme activities among CGIAR Centres and the ESSP² constituency, and their respective partners to further the implementation of strategies and priorities;
- Provide oversight of the Programme’s activity portfolio, including work plans, budgets and fund distribution, project implementation, and ensuring that reporting requirements are met;
- Develop and implement a communications strategy for the Programme;

- Facilitate / promote communications and linkages across the CGIAR Centres and ESSP constituency,, as well as with the Programme's Steering Committee to support implementation of activities and delivery of outcomes and impacts;
- Develop a strategy for resource mobilization and actively engage in fundraising activities.

Essential qualifications and competencies:

- PhD or equivalent academic qualifications in agricultural and / or environmental sciences and demonstrated international standing in issues related to climate change, agriculture and food security.
- At least 15 years experience in leading complex, collaborative research for development endeavours and managing scientific and administrative / financial personnel in support of such efforts.
- Demonstrated strategic-thinking skills.
- Demonstrated competency in communication and interpersonal skills, including extensive ability to motivate, inspire and promote team-work through negotiation and consensus-building.
- Demonstrated competency in managing people in multiple locations, in a multi-cultural international research or academic environment.
- Familiarity with the respective research agendas of the CGIAR and ESSP communities.
- Demonstrated track record of raising funds for large international programmes.
- Fluency in English, both written and spoken, and good working knowledge of other major international languages would be a considerable advantage.

Terms and conditions: This full-time, fixed term 3-year renewable position will be appointed by, and accountable to, the Programme's Steering Committee through its Chair. Terms and conditions will be based on the host institution (to be identified through a bidding process), which shall be the employer on behalf of the Challenge Programme.

Applications: A letter of application (responding to the required qualifications and competencies) and *curriculum vitae* in English, including date of birth, gender and nationality, with names and full contact details of at least three referees, including telephone, fax and email address, should be sent to Human Resources Office, Bioversity International, Via dei Tre Denari 472/a, 00057 Maccarese, Rome, fax (39) 06 6118341 or preferably online at bioversityvacancy@cgiar.org by **8 December 2008**. For additional information about the position, please contact the Challenge Programme Chair (Professor Thomas Rosswall, thomas.rosswall@icsu.org).

Please quote source of advertisement.

We are an equal opportunity employer and strive for staff diversity in gender and nationality.

All applications will be acknowledged, but only short listed candidates will be contacted.

¹ [CGIAR](#): Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research

² [ESSP](#): Earth System Science Partnership