



RESEARCH ASSOCIATE (AGRONOMIST)

The Organization

The Alliance of Bioversity International and the International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT) delivers research-based solutions that harness agricultural biodiversity and sustainably transform food systems to improve people's lives. Alliance solutions address the global crises of malnutrition, climate change, biodiversity loss, and environmental degradation.

With novel partnerships, the Alliance generates evidence and mainstreams innovations to transform food systems and landscapes so that they sustain the planet, drive prosperity, and nourish people in a climate crisis.

The Alliance is part of CGIAR, a global research partnership for a food-secure future.

About the position

The Alliance, on behalf of HarvestPlus (www.harvestplus.org), is seeking to recruit a Research Associate (Agronomist) for an anticipated World Bank Multisectoral Child Nutrition and Health Project (PMNS) in DR Congo. The recruitment of this position is contingent on the award of the project.

HarvestPlus will be providing technical assistance services to the government of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), funded by the government using the proceeds of a loan from the World Bank to the Ministry of Health. This work will range from building capacity and integrating biofortification into government agricultural breeding programs, through development of quality seed markets and dissemination to farmers, through creating demand for biofortified crops through food processors and markets, through developing materials on the nutritional benefits of biofortified crops and training community nutrition promoters.

The Research Associate (Agronomist) will assist with implementing and reporting the integration of the research, development and delivery work of biofortified crops happening at community level.

Responsibilities

- Supervise and support all biofortified seed production initiatives in the area of operation.
- Assist in conducting experiments and investigations into field crop problems and develop new methods of growing biofortified crop to ensure more efficient production, higher yields, and improved quality
- Support a scaling out strategy/structure for the biofortified crop in the area to ensure that the improved varieties are available for use in the area.
- Assist in exposing farmers to new farming methods that promote higher yields and profitability.
- Keep and use detailed records on targeted farmers to enhance the understanding of farmers' production needs and problems.
- Assist in communicating farmer production trends, crop conditions, wants/needs/concerns to the appropriate people within the HarvestPlus structure.



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Bioversity International is the operating name of the International Plant Genetic Resources Institute (IPGRI).

Headquarters

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alliancebioversityciat.org

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- Assist in conducting demonstrations within farming communities to expose farmers to high nutrient varieties and ensure that farmers adopt them.
- Participate in training of farmers and staff of local organizations.
- Assist in organizing farmer extension events.
- Assist in disseminating nutrition messaging to the targeted beneficiaries
- Work with nutrition team to promote preparation and utilization of foods made from biofortified crops.

Requirements

- Degree in Agricultural Sciences or agribusiness.
- At least 2 years of relevant experience in field work and working with farmers
- Good communication skills in French and fluency in local languages.
- Basic computer literacy in Word and Excel.
- Ability to work independently with minimal supervision, but also participate as a team member in accomplishment of duties.
- Excellent interpersonal and organizational skills, self-motivated with ability to work well within a multi-disciplinary team.
- Ability to work in a multi-cultural environment.

Terms of employment

This is a nationally recruited position based in Kinshasa, DR Congo. The contract will be for a two (2) year period, subject to a probation period of three (3) months and is renewable depending on performance and availability of resources. The Alliance offers a multicultural, collegial research environment with competitive salary and excellent benefits; we believe that the diversity of our staff contributes to excellence. The Alliance is an equal opportunity employer, and strives for staff diversity in gender and nationality.

Applications

Applicants are invited to visit <http://ciat.cgiar.org/ciat-jobs> to get full details of the position and to submit their applications. Applications **MUST** include reference number **HV-DRC-2021-04-AGRONOMIST** as the position applied. Applications should be saved as one document using the candidate's lastname, firstname for ease of sorting.

Notes:

1. *Hiring for this position is contingent upon successful bidding and signing an agreement with the donor.*
2. *The Alliance does not charge a fee at any stage of the recruitment process (application, interview meeting, processing or training). The Alliance also does not concern itself with information on applicants' bank accounts.*

Closing date for applications: 2nd April, 2021

We invite you to learn more about us at:

<http://alliancebioiversityciat.org>

Alliance

