

The person and the job

If you possess a PhD in environmental science, agriculture science, water science or a related field, and have at least five years research experience, ideally in an interdisciplinary environment, you could be the person we are looking for. This position reports to the Research Director of the CGIAR Challenge Program on Water and Food (CPWF) www.waterforfood.org and will be based at the CPWF's Secretariat which is hosted at the headquarters of the International Water Management Institute (IWMI) in Colombo, Sri Lanka. You will assist the Research Director in providing leadership in the design and implementation of all scientific research conducted by the CPWF. You will also assist with the delivery of scientific outputs and developmental outcomes. You will be a member of the CPWF Management Team.

You will:

- contribute to CPWF strategy and management decisions for the entire program;
- provide overall supervision of CPWF Topic Working Groups, and specific supervision of one or more individual Topic Working Groups;
- link CPWF Topic Working Groups with science components of the new CGIAR Consortium Research Program 5 (CRP5) on Land, Water and Ecosystems;
- lead the Volta Basin Development Challenge research program for the Management Team, and/or others as may be assigned by the Program Director or Research Director;
- supervise research assistants or other program staff;
- assist the Research Director with integrating research across topics, basins and scales; to develop within-basin and cross-basin synthesis of research findings; to integrate CPWF research into CRP5; to maintain a high level of quality in CPWF research delivery through assessment of progress reports and interaction with research providers; and to operate the resilience concept in CPWF research, including through the Resilience Topic Working Group; and
- assist the Research and Impact Directors to contract CPWF projects; to suggest adjustments to basin and program research directions and priorities; to identify new areas of expertise that are required; to help with the suitable integration of gender, institutions, participatory approaches and capacity building into research planning and implementation; to work with basin challenge teams to increase relevance and efficiency; and to conduct research on the use of impact pathways to translate science into creating impact.

You must possess:

- a PhD in environmental science, agriculture science, water science or a related field;
- at least 5 years research experience, ideally in an interdisciplinary environment;
- field-level experience in improving the management of water and food;
- a track record of publications in refereed international journals;
- an understanding and commitment to development-oriented research;
- advanced communication skills, both written and oral, including the capacity to write proposals, research reports and papers, and to develop written scientific material and communicate results to a range of stakeholders;
- skills in leadership and management of research teams; and
- the ability to work as a member of a team and also to work with researchers of other disciplines.

You must know about:

- strategic and conceptual thinking - to be able to develop an innovative research agenda; and
- project and people management - overseeing a range of activities and motivating people to carry out tasks.

It would be useful if you had:

- knowledge of information tools to carry out analysis;
- experience in living/operating in developing countries; and
- field-level experience in problem-solving research with multidisciplinary teams.
- fluency in written and oral French language would be a strong asset.

This is an internationally recruited position with a competitive salary and benefits package, which includes a housing allowance, transport, education, shipping assistance, annual home leave, retirement and health insurance package. IWMI's policy is to appoint staff initially on three-year contracts which are subject to renewal, depending on performance and the Institute's needs. This position will also require travel in the regions where the CPWF works in. Applications are particularly welcome from female candidates and/or those from the developing world.

The International Water Management Institute (www.iwmi.org) is a non-profit, scientific organization engaged in research and capacity building activities for developing countries. Our mission is to overcome poverty through better management of land and water resources. Working with diverse partners and supported by the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (www.cgiar.org), IWMI seeks to translate its research findings into actionable recommendations for policymakers, resource managers and poor rural communities. IWMI is based in Sri Lanka and has regional offices in 12 countries in Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa.

IWMI is an equal opportunity employer and is keen to further diversify its staff in terms of both gender and nationality.

Please submit your application on-line at: www.iwmi.org/About_IWMI/Vacancies/ **Closing date: 05th January 2011**

Complete Application Form + attach your résumé + attach your letter which addresses IWMI's requirements shown above with names and email addresses of 3 professional referees, to be contacted if you are short-listed