



## Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

### Vacancy Announcement No. IRC2961 Deadline for Applications: 15 September 2015

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|------------------------------|--|
| <b>Title</b>                 | <b>Executive Director, CGIAR Independent Science and Partnership Council</b><br>Secretariat of the CGIAR Independent Science and Partnership Council (DDNI), Office of the Deputy Director-General/Coordinator for Natural Resources |
| <b>Grade</b>                 | D-1  |
| <b>Number</b>                | 2002620  |
| <b>Duty Station Location</b> | Rome, Italy  |

#### Summary of Duties and Functions

The Independent Science and Partnership Council (ISPC) of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) is an independent scientific advisory body whose mission is to strengthen the quality, relevance and impact of science in the CGIAR. In the reformed CGIAR, the ISPC's overarching purpose is to provide independent advice and expertise to the funders of the CGIAR through services to the Fund Council and the Funders Forum. It also serves as an intellectual bridge between the funders and the Consortium. The Council comprises of eminent scientists from a broad range of disciplines serving in their personal capacity. It is provided with scientific, technical, and administrative support by the ISPC Secretariat located at FAO headquarters, Rome.

The Executive Director leads the Secretariat in support of the Council; he/she reports to the ISPC Chair and maintains close working relationships with the ISPC members, the Fund Office in Washington and the Consortium Office in Montpellier (although the overarching governance is currently subject to external review). On FAO matters and administrative procedures the Executive Director reports to the Deputy Director-General/ Coordinator for Natural Resources.

The Executive Director will be responsible for planning and organizing the work of the ISPC, the administration of the Secretariat (including budget management), and monitoring the execution of the Council's recommendations after approval by the Fund Council of the CGIAR; he/she will ensure that the Secretariat contributes efficiently and effectively to implementing the ISPC's objectives of: (1) ensuring that science in the CGIAR is of high quality and is relevant to the development goals of the System; (2) informing the CGIAR on new trends and emerging issues in agricultural science and the wider development environment through commissioning strategic studies and trend analyses; (3) mobilising science and enhancing strategic partnerships through fostering international dialogue on critical emerging issues and (4) strengthening impact assessment through the work of the Standing Panel on Impact Assessment which is a sub-group of the ISPC.

Specifically, the Executive Director will oversee the Secretariat's activities in support of the ISPC's mission and objectives and direct the staff to assist the ISPC in:

- conducting foresight and other mission relevant studies to enable the system to respond to emerging issues;
- assessing (*ex ante*) new proposals of CGIAR programs and providing advice to the CGIAR Fund Council ;
- providing guidance to the CGIAR system as a whole on ex-post Impact Assessment;
- catalyzing the mobilization of the global agricultural science for development community;
- facilitating and aggregating system and program level impact assessment studies;
- enhancing quality of impact assessment in the system;
- building strong synergies between the CGIAR and FAO.

Specific roles and responsibilities of the Executive Director may change following establishment of the

ISPC in the context of the CGIAR reform.

## General Requirements

- *Post-graduate qualifications or equivalent professional experience* in agricultural or related disciplines, including policy or social sciences;
- Extensive management or leadership experience (at least twelve years), preferably at the international level, in directing high level scientific talent and setting priorities;
- Excellent organizational skills, including the ability to summarize complex discussions in writing;
- Evidence of a commitment to a cross-disciplinary approach to science and research;
- Good understanding of policy dimensions of development, including relationships between developing and developed countries and institutions therein;
- Broad knowledge of agriculture (crops and livestock), natural resources management, fisheries, and forestry in the context of poverty reduction, human nutrition and sustainable development;
- Knowledge and/or experience in programme planning, budgeting, monitoring, and evaluation;
- Excellent speaking and writing abilities in English; the ability to read and speak French and/or Spanish would be an asset;
- an understanding of the CGIAR system would be desirable.

## Leadership Competencies

**Results focus:** Takes accountability for the delivery of agreed results in service of FAO's strategic framework - **Leading, engaging and empowering others:** Coordinates, directs, facilitates and recognizes team efforts; creates an enabling environment and assists others to realize and develop their potential - **Communication:** Encourages and contributes to clear and open communication - **Partnering and Advocating:** Promotes ideas and develops partnerships to advance the Organization's work - **Knowledge sharing and continuous improvement:** Continually seeks to improve the knowledge, skills and work processes of oneself and others - **Strategic thinking:** Makes informed and coherent decisions aligned with broader goals and strategies.

**Please note that all candidates should adhere to FAO values of *Commitment to FAO, Respect for all and Integrity and Transparency.***

## Remuneration

FAO adheres to the UN common system of salaries, allowances and benefits. General information regarding salaries and allowances can be found at the International Civil Service Commission Web site: <http://icsc.un.org/rootindex.asp>

## How to Apply

To apply, visit the iRecruitment website at <http://www.fao.org/employment/irecruitment-access/en/> and complete the on-line application. Only applications received through iRecruitment will be considered.

Vacancies will be removed from iRecruitment at 23:59 Central European Time (CET) on the deadline for applications date. We encourage applicants to submit the application well before the deadline date.

If you need help, or have queries, please contact: [iRecruitment@fao.org](mailto:iRecruitment@fao.org)