Organizational Setting
The Independent Science and Partnership Council (ISPC) is a standing panel of world-class scientific experts. Our aim is to strengthen the quality, relevance, and impact of science in the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR), a global partnership that unites organizations engaged in research for sustainable development with the funders of this work. The ISPC advises CGIAR funders on strategic scientific issues and harnesses the best of global science to support the goals of the international agricultural research community. The ISPC Secretariat is hosted in the FAO in Rome, Italy.

Reporting Lines
The Senior Agriculture Officer (Agricultural Research) reports to the Executive Director of the CGIAR’s Independent Science and Partnership Council, ISPC.

Technical Focus
Provision of scientific and technical analysis and advice in the areas of strategy and trends for agricultural research in developing countries, independent program review, mobilisation of science and impact assessment in relation to the above.

Key Results
- Leadership, technical and policy advice in support of the planning, implementation and monitoring of the CGIAR’s ISPC workplan.

Key Functions
- provide critical review and analysis, reviewing program plans and highlighting programmatic and technical issues for ISPC’s consideration;
- monitor and advise on global and regional agricultural research trends, agricultural scientific challenges and agricultural science & technology policy issues;
- promote recognition of the quality, relevance and impact of science in the CGIAR identifying opportunities for enhancing the collaboration and stimulating global research towards CGIAR goals;
- develop and maintain partnership with national and regional research bodies, including advanced research institutions and private sector to support the mobilization of science related to CGIAR goals;
- lead the planning and organization of meetings of the ISPC, its specialized panels and ad hoc workshops;
- prepare, analyse and review documentation (ISPC publications, reports, communication activities, etc.);
- Represent ISPC Secretariat at meetings concerned with international agricultural research, as required.

Candidates will be assessed against the following

Minimum Requirements
- PhD in agricultural or related natural or social sciences;
- Ten years of relevant experience in agricultural science and technology and science policy issues with particular emphasis on tropical and sub-tropical agricultural research for development. This should include experience in planning, implementing, coordinating and evaluating programme activities related to agricultural research, with relevant experience at the national level in developing countries;
- Working knowledge of English.

Competencies
- Results Focus
- Leading, Engaging and Empowering
- Communication
- Partnering and Advocating
- Knowledge Sharing and Continuous Improvement
- Strategic Thinking
Technical/Functional Skills
- Level and relevance of technical qualifications (all relevant backgrounds will be considered: expertise in crop science, spatial modelling or non-economic social sciences will be an advantage);
- Extent of research expertise and demonstrated analytical ability;
- Relevance of experience in planning, implementing coordinating and evaluating programme activities related to agricultural research;
- Good professional networks and demonstrated ability to promote international scientific interaction across CGIAR Centers, strong NARS, Academies of Science and Private Sector in more and less developed countries;
- Proven ability to organize and conduct technical meetings and to make effective oral presentations and write clear and concise reports in English;
- Demonstrated ability to work in collaborative arrangements and to develop, design and implement quality programmes, studies and projects.

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

All candidates should possess computer/word processing skills

RENUMERATION
A competitive compensation and benefits package is offered. For information on UN salaries, allowances and benefits, click on the following link: http://icsc.un.org/

For guidelines to applicants, please visit the Application Toolkit at: http://www.fao.org/employment/current-vacancies/project/en/

Send your application to: VA No. DDN-34-14-PRJ
Secretariat of the Independent Science & Partnership Council to the CGIAR
Office of the Deputy Director-General/Coordinator for Natural Resources (DDN)
FAO Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, 00153 Rome, ITALY
Fax No: +39 06 570-53298
E-mail:VA-34-14-PRJ-DDN@fao.org

Please note that FAO staff members are international civil servants subject to the authority of the Director-General and may be assigned to any activities or office of the organization.

FAO IS A NON-SMOKING ENVIRONMENT