



Issued on: 15 June 2016

Deadline For Application: 23 July 2016

POSITION TITLE:	Senior Agricultural Officer (Agricultural Research)	GRADE LEVEL:	P-5
ORGANIZATIONAL UNIT:	Secretariat of the Independent Science and Partnership Council to the CGIAR (AGDS)	DUTY STATION:	Rome, Italy
	Office of the Assistant Director-General, Agriculture Department (AGD)	DURATION:	Fixed Term – 2 years
		POST NUMBER:	0411884
		CCOG CODE:	1H01

* The length of appointment for internal FAO candidates will be established in accordance with applicable policies pertaining to the extension of appointments

Qualified female applicants and qualified nationals of non-and under-represented member countries are encouraged to apply.

Persons with disabilities are equally encouraged to apply.

All applications will be treated with the strictest confidence.

The incumbent may be re-assigned to different activities and/or duty stations depending on the evolving needs of the Organization.

Organizational Setting

The Independent Science and Partnership Council (ISPC) is a panel of world-class scientific experts in agricultural research. It is supported by a Secretariat which is hosted in the FAO, in Rome, Italy where this post is based. The aim of the ISPC is to strengthen the quality, relevance, and impact of science in the CGIAR (formerly the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research). The ISPC advises CGIAR funders on science and research matters, including prioritization, as well as strategies for effective partnerships along the research for development continuum. The Standing Panel on Impact Assessment (SPIA) is a sub-group within the ISPC. SPIA's mandate is to provide CGIAR members with timely, objective and credible information on the impacts at the system level of past CGIAR investments and outputs in terms of the CGIAR System Level Objectives (SLOs). SPIA provides support to, and complements individual Centers of the CGIAR Centers in their ex post impact assessment activities, and provides feedback to CGIAR priority setting. The ISPC, and SPIA are also tasked with developing links to ex ante assessment and overall planning, monitoring and evaluation functions in the CGIAR system. One of the main tasks of the person holding this post is to coordinate support to the SPIA chair to achieve the SPIA objectives.

Reporting Lines

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

Technical Focus

Coordination of impact assessment work of the SPIA, provision of scientific and technical analysis and advice in the areas of strategy and trends in agricultural research for development, independent program review, mobilization of science and partnership strategies.

Key Results

- Leadership, technical and policy advice in support of the shaping, planning, implementation and monitoring of the CGIAR's ISPC workplan, with focus on ex-post impact assessment of CGIAR research for development.

Key Functions

- Acts as secretary to the ISPC's Standing Panel on Impact Assessment (SPIA), leads strong intellectual, technical and administrative support to SPIA in fulfilling its mandate related to ex post Impact Assessment (IA) for accountability, learning, and building IA capacity within the System;
- Leads intellectual, technical and administrative support to the ISPC work on prioritization;
- Provides critical review and analysis of CGIAR research plans, highlighting programmatic and technical issues for ISPC's consideration, and drafting relevant commentaries as appropriate;
- Monitors and advise on global and regional agricultural research for development trends, agricultural scientific and partnership challenges and agricultural science & technology policy issues;
- Advises on planning and organizing meetings of the ISPC and SPIA, and lead in organizing specialized panels and ad-hoc workshops to support specialized ISPC-led working groups;
- Promotes recognition of the quality, relevance and science of impact in the CGIAR, identifying opportunities for enhancing partnerships and stimulating global research towards CGIAR goals;
- Prepares, analyses and reviews documentation (ISPC publications, reports, communication activities, etc.);
- Represents ISPC Executive Director or Secretariat at meetings or other occasions as required.

CANDIDATES WILL BE ASSESSED AGAINST THE FOLLOWING

Minimum Requirements

- PhD in economics, agriculture economics, or related field in agricultural or social sciences;
- Ten years of relevant experience in policy issues related to agricultural research and technology and/or impact assessment of agricultural interventions in development including experience in planning, implementing, coordinating and

evaluating the effectiveness and impact of programme activities related to agricultural research for development at the international level, and 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

- Work experience in more than one location or area of work, particularly in field positions is desirable
- Level and relevance of technical qualifications (all relevant backgrounds will be considered: expertise in impact assessment of agricultural research essential)
- Extent of research expertise and demonstrated analytical ability and ability to combine concepts from the theory-based evaluation perspective with concepts from the innovation systems perspective
- Extent and relevance of experience in planning, implementing, coordinating and evaluating programme activities related to agricultural research for development
- Demonstrated ability to develop, design and implement quality programmes, studies and projects
- Proven ability to organize and conduct technical meetings and to make effective oral presentations and write clear and concise reports in English.

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

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- All candidates should possess computer/word processing skills.
- Evaluation of qualified candidates may include an assessment exercise which will be followed by a competency-based interview.
- Your application will be screened based on the information provided in your iRecruitment online profile (see “*How to Apply*”). We strongly recommend that you ensure that the information is accurate and complete including employment record, academic qualifications and language skills.
- Please note that FAO will only consider academic credentials or degrees obtained from an educational institution recognised in the IAU/UNESCO list.
- Other similar positions at the same level may be filled from this vacancy notice and the endorsed candidates will be considered for the Employment Roster for a period of 2 years.
- Candidates may be requested to provide performance assessments.

REMUNERATION

A competitive compensation and benefits package is offered. For information on UN salaries, allowances and benefits, click on the following link: http://www.un.org/Depts/OHRM/salaries_allowances/salary.htm

HOW TO APPLY

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

Candidates are requested to attach a letter of motivation to the online profile.

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

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