



Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
Vacancy Announcement No: IRC5158

Issued on: 14 December 2017
Deadline for Application: 15 February 2018

Position Title:	Senior Technical Officer (Plant Breeding and Genetics Specialist)	Grade Level:	P-5
Organizational Unit:	Joint FAO/IAEA Division, AGEDD	Duty Station:	Austria, Vienna
		Duration *:	Fixed-term: two years with possibility of extension
		Post Number:	0054941
		CCOG Code:	1H02

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.

*** This Vacancy Announcement cancels and supersedes Vacancy Announcement No. IRC3760. Applicants who applied to VA IRC3760 must apply to the present vacancy in iRecruitment in order to be considered.**

Organizational Setting

The Joint FAO/IAEA Division of Nuclear Techniques in Food and Agriculture assists Member States of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in using nuclear techniques and related technologies to improve food security, alleviate poverty and promote sustainable agriculture. The Joint FAO/IAEA Division (AGE) consists of five sections, each with an associated laboratory (located in Seibersdorf, Vienna, Austria), in the areas of: animal production and health; plant breeding and genetics; insect pest control; soil and water management and crop nutrition; and food and environmental protection.

Reporting Lines

Senior Technical Officer (Section Head) reports to Director of the Joint FAO/IAEA Division (AGE)

Technical Focus

Development and improvement of mutation and other techniques for plant breeding, application of nuclear and related techniques to increase efficiency of plant mutation breeding, facilitation of use of plant breeding for crop improvement, especially for climate-smart agriculture.

Key Results

Leadership and technical policy expertise for the planning, development and implementation of divisional programme of work, projects, products, services in accordance with FAO's Strategic Objectives and IAEA programmes.

Key Functions

- Plans, manages and leads highly specialized teams and provide technical leadership and strategic direction to the Plant Breeding and Genetics programme on sustainable crop improvement for intensification of agricultural production systems;
- Analyzes global and country-specific requirements and relevant technical issues in areas of crop improvement and production to provide critical input into the FAO Strategic Objectives and PWB; IAEA Programme and Budget, work plans and the supporting budgets and/or resourcing strategies;
- Implements and monitors activities of the programme, involving the development/improvement of mutation and other breeding techniques and related biotechnology and the supporting system/database;
- Provides technical support and/or policy advice to FAO and IAEA Member States through Technical Cooperation projects in promoting application of mutation breeding for crop improvement in the context of climate change and global food security, especially in developing countries;
- Manages, support and coordinate research and development activities through Coordinated Research Projects to develop solutions to technical obstacles experienced in plant breeding;
- Leads and provides technical backstopping to and ensures the quality/effectiveness of capacity development and knowledge-sharing activities for Member States in the application of plant breeding;
- Leads or participates in resource-mobilization activities in accordance with FAO/IAEA corporate strategy.

Specific Functions

- Participates and contributes to the emergency response and preparation for nuclear and radiological emergencies affecting food and agriculture.

CANDIDATES WILL BE ASSESSED AGAINST THE FOLLOWING

Minimum Requirements

- Advanced university degree in biological or agricultural sciences with specialization in plant breeding, crop improvement, crop science or related field;
- Ten years of relevant experience in the area of plant breeding and professional experience in research on crop improvement and/or other biological sciences;
- Working knowledge of English, French or Spanish and limited knowledge of one of the other two or Arabic, Chinese, Russian.

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 essential;
- Extent and relevance of experience in planning and delivery of crop-improvement strategies and programmes/projects;
- Demonstrated skills and experience in leading multidisciplinary teams, working groups or networks related to plant breeding/crop improvement;
- In-depth knowledge of and practical experience in plant breeding, biotechnology and related technologies;
- Proven ability to formulate, undertake and manage research and development activities and projects;
- Demonstrated ability and experience in technology transfer, capacity building and technical/policy advice for developing countries in areas of crop improvement and production;
- Demonstrated skills and experience in resource mobilization for extra budgetary funding for field projects and R-D activities.
- Relevance of knowledge and working experience in application of nuclear techniques is desirable, especially in mutation breeding.

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
- 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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