



International Potato Center

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

Ref.: 11-20 PMCMS/IRS/SSA

Project Manager & Crop Management Specialist

The International Potato Center (CIP) is seeking an accomplished scientist knowledgeable in vegetatively propagated crop production systems and project management to establish a new sweetpotato research for development program in Zambia in close collaboration with national program partners and other development organizations.

The Center: CIP is a not-for-profit international agricultural research organization with a global mandate to conduct research on potatoes and sweet potatoes, sustainable management of natural resources and urban agriculture. CIP's vision is to contribute from its areas of expertise to the fulfillment of the Millennium Development Goals, in particular those goals that relate to poverty, hunger and child and maternal mortality. CIP and its partners contribute high-quality science and capacity building to the global effort to reduce poverty, hunger and malnutrition and make sustainable development possible for poor potato and sweetpotato farmers, their families and communities. CIP has its headquarters in Lima, Peru and staff and activities in other locations in Africa, Asia and Latin America. CIP is a member of the Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research, a network of 15 research centers mostly located in the developing world and supported by more than 50 donor members. CIP Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) main regional office is in Nairobi, Kenya and it has a country office in Maputo, Mozambique.

The position: A full-time project coordinator in planning and managing the day-to-day implementation aspects and developing and coordinating research on seed systems and integrated crop management of orange-fleshed sweetpotato as well as setting up a dissemination system based on trained vine multipliers, principally in Eastern Province, Zambia. The position reports to the leader of the program of Sweetpotato in SSA, and disciplinarily to the leader of the Crop Management and Production Systems Division.

Duties and Accountabilities:

Specific responsibilities are as follows:

1. Establish an innovative research for development program focused on assuring the timely availability of planting material and improvement of crop management, storage and utilization practices for orange-fleshed sweetpotato
2. Establish and manage the multiplication of improved sweetpotato materials and promote their dissemination in collaboration with partners, as well as implement marketing strategies for OFSP processed products in specified areas
3. Conduct trials to determine crop management strategies that maximize the performance of the clones (both for productivity, profitability and quality) under different input conditions and agro-ecologies in close collaboration with national program scientist
4. Together with a monitoring and evaluation officer, ensure that appropriate monitoring data are collected to record project progress.
5. Coordinate baseline and impact assessment activities with other International and National research programs working on food security and nutrition in target areas.
6. Supervise national scientific and administrative staff

7. Represent CIP in national fora and develop effective communication tools for promoting the development and dissemination of orange-fleshed sweetpotato
8. Execute and report on quarterly and annual work plans consistent with project objectives and with CIP internal reporting requirements
9. Engage in resource mobilization efforts to expand dissemination coverage

Selection Criteria:

- Ph.D. with a minimum of 5 years relevant work experience in agronomy, seed technology, natural resource management, agricultural economics, agricultural engineering or a closely related discipline.
- Knowledge of crop management for vegetatively propagated crops
- Experience in managing sweetpotato multiplication systems, including tissue culture management, highly preferred.
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills in English are required.
- Ability to work in an international agricultural research center, interacting with its staff and managing research programs in a variety of institutional and ecological settings.
- Demonstrated expertise planning research, analyzing data and writing timely reports.
- Good record of publications and citations.
- Aptitude for teamwork, leadership, and excellent communication skills.
- Willingness to travel frequently and work under field conditions within Zambia.

Conditions: The position will be based in Chipata, Eastern Province, Zambia. Employment contract will be for an initial two-year term with possibility of renewal. Salary will be internationally competitive, paid in US dollars, and commensurate with experience. CIP provides additional benefits including employer-paid medical, life and disability insurance and retirement benefits. Allowances toward relocation, housing, home leave travel, dependents' education and annual leave are also provided. CIP prides itself on its collegial and supportive working environment, which allows space for personal and professional growth.

Applications: Applicants should apply by email, sending a letter of motivation, a full C.V., and the names and contact information of three referees knowledgeable about the candidate's professional qualifications and work experience to Rosario Marcovich at CIP-Recruitment@cgiar.org copied to Dorvin Stockdale (d.stockdale@cgiar.org). The reference name of the position should be clearly marked on the subject line of the email message. Screening of applications will begin on 30 June 2011 and will continue until the post is filled.

All applications will be acknowledged, only short listed candidates will be contacted.

Learn more about CIP by accessing our web site at <http://www.cipotato.org>

CIP is an equal opportunity employer. Qualified women and professionals from developing countries are particularly encouraged to apply