



VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT BIOVERSITY INTERNATIONAL

For further information on Bioversity International, consult the Web page at <http://www.bioversityinternational.org>

Bioversity International undertakes, encourages and supports research and other activities aimed at improving the well being of present and future generations of people by enhancing conservation and the deployment of agricultural biodiversity on farms and in forests, with special emphasis on the needs of developing countries. The organization is active in over 100 countries worldwide, and has more than 300 staff working from some 20 country offices. It is one of 15 centres supported by the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR). Bioversity's headquarters are located in Maccaresse, near Rome, Italy. Bioversity is now seeking a well qualified candidate for the position of:

Associate Scientist, Nutrition (Benin)

Under the direct supervision of the Programme Director of Diversity for Livelihoods and co-supervision of the Regional Director for Sub-Saharan Africa, the associate scientist based at Bioversity-Benin office will contribute to coordination of the implementation of the project **"The effects of market integration on the nutritional contributions of traditional foods to the wellbeing of the rural poor in Africa"** to be carried out in Benin and Kenya. While many developing countries in Sub-Saharan Africa are rich in locally adapted agricultural biodiversity, and are host to reported unique varieties of nutrient-rich crop species, traditional food systems in the developing world are changing under the influence of globalization and market integration. The working hypothesis of this project, which will be tested in Kenya and Benin, is that much traditional food diversity tends to disappear with market integration, being substituted with introduced foods that may be poor nutritional substitutes of the diverse traditional foods they replace. The project will (1) assess the relative nutritional benefits and related health outcomes among the rural poor of a diversity of locally-produced traditional foods under varying degrees of market integration, (2) identify and assess the market potential for locally-produced traditional foods of high nutritional value which tend to be abandoned with market integration, (3) provide scientific evidence base to help determine whether traditional foods have any nutritional role to play for rural populations under increased market integration in Sub-Saharan Africa.

The Associated Scientist will be expected to:

- Provide scientific and technical support to the project implementation, including leading the design and implementation of project components;
- Work closely with project partners and consultants to ensure the timely delivery of project milestones and outputs;
- Participate in and support project management processes including planning and implementation of activities; monitoring of the project budget; organizing project meetings and workshops;
- Consolidate national project reports and prepare Donor technical reports;
- Contribute to and coordinate the production of scientific outputs derived from the project;
- Provide nutrition input as necessary to other projects being carried out by Bioversity that focus on nutrition and contribute to their implementation.
- Perform other duties as required.

Qualifications and Competencies:

Essential qualifications and competencies:

- A PhD in community or international nutrition or related field.
- Demonstrated experience with carrying out field research in developing countries including experience with the design of community nutritional studies and analyses, preferably in Sub-Saharan Africa.
- Proficiency in relevant software packages (Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint); working knowledge of statistical analysis software.
- Good project management skills.
- Strong teamwork, interpersonal and communications skills; ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with people of different cultural and national backgrounds and work within multi-disciplinary teams and multi-cultural environments.
- Excellent English language skills, both verbal and written.
- Good analytical and synthesizing skills; ability to write clear and concise scientific documents / papers.

Desirable competencies and qualifications

- Research experience in the use of biodiversity for food and nutrition, traditional and indigenous food systems, or food-based approaches to health
- Fluency in French.
- Experience with agricultural systems.
- Knowledge of economics.

Terms and conditions: This is an Associate Scientist, internationally recruited, position for which Bioversity International offers an attractive remuneration package including a competitive salary, non-contributory retirement plan, medical insurance and leave provisions. All benefits are denominated and paid in US Dollars. The contract will be for a period of two years subject to a probationary period of six months.

Applications: Please apply online through the following link: [Bioversity Employment Opportunities Webpage](#) by clicking the "Apply" button. Alternatively, via e-mail to: bioversityvacancy@cgiar.org including a letter of application, curriculum vitae in English (that includes date of birth, gender and nationality) and the names and full contact details of at least three referees (telephone, fax and e-mail address); or via mail to: Human Resources Office, Bioversity International, Via de Tre Denari, 472/a, 00057 Maccarese, Rome, Italy; or via Fax to (39) 06 6118 341 no later than **20 December 2009**. Please quote the source of advertisement.

Bioversity is an equal opportunity employer and strives for staff diversity in gender and nationality.

All received applications will be acknowledged, but only short listed applicants will be further contacted.

*With effect from 1 December 2006, IPGRI and INIBAP operate under the name "**Bioversity International**", Bioversity for short. This new name echoes our new strategy, which focuses on improving people's lives through biodiversity research.*