

## Mechanization Systems Engineer (Postdoctoral Fellow or Equivalent)

Rice is life for millions of people around the world. At the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), a team of more than 1,300 world-class scientific and support staff is working to reduce poverty through rice science.

IRRI is looking for a mechanization systems engineer to conduct research on the development and adaptation of innovative mechanization solutions for rice-based cropping systems in Southeast Asia. Driven by labor shortages and increasing labor costs, rice-based cropping systems in many regions of Asia will require a structural transformation that involves not only new value chains and agronomic solutions for sustainable production, but also new mechanization solutions. Key production steps such as land preparation, crop establishment, crop care, and harvest will need to be done differently than at present. You will work on the mechanization component in an interdisciplinary team researching such future rice systems.

### RESPONSIBILITIES

- Assist the IRRI Experiment Station in the identification, selection and evaluation of equipment for crop establishment, pesticide and fertilizer application, land preparation and harvesting to help facilitate and demonstrate modern, mechanized rice production (4 wheel tractor systems).
- Working with other research groups, identify and adapt mechanization systems especially for but not limited to direct seeding and mechanical transplanting considering existing farming structures and equipment sizes (2-wheel and 4-wheel systems).
- Contribute to developing options for mechanization of straw collection and harvesting, in particular using combine harvesters.
- Link with international equipment suppliers to explore potential for joint R&D and machinery evaluation.
- Serve as resource person in the deliver training on mechanization in IRRI's various training programs
- Disseminate research findings through attendance at conferences, seminars and workshops and through various publications.

### REQUIREMENTS

The successful candidate will have MSc or PhD in Agricultural Engineering or Mechanization and other related disciplines; minimum of 3 years postgraduate experience in farm mechanization or cropping systems research and extension or other equivalent professional experience; demonstrated experience in modern crop production, mechanization and post harvest technologies; ambitions to carry out science of the highest quality and publish in peer-reviewed journals of international standing; ability to interact as a member of an interdisciplinary research team; excellent interpersonal and communication skills; and excellent written and spoken English.

The position will be based at the IRRI headquarters in Los Baños, Laguna, Philippines, with a competitive compensation and benefit package. IRRI provides a multicultural work environment that reflects the values of gender equality, teamwork, and respect for diversity. Women are encouraged to apply. Interested candidates should submit their application to [IRRIRecruitment@irri.org](mailto:IRRIRecruitment@irri.org). Screening will start on 30 April 2012 and will continue until a suitable candidate has been found. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted. The position description can be found at [www.irri.org](http://www.irri.org).

Join us to deliver rice science for a better world

