

## Seed Policy Specialist, Africa

We are seeking a dynamic, results-oriented, Seed Policy Specialist for Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA), with a strong background in seed policy analysis and development.

The position focuses on seed policy analysis and advocacy for maize seed sector development in eastern and southern Africa (ESA) in general, and improved stress-tolerant maize seed in key delivery countries in particular. The position contributes to and draws on the experiences of a large multi-disciplinary, research-for-development team that develops and deploys improved stress-tolerant maize seed for SSA with public and private partners, particularly in relation to Drought Tolerant Maize for Africa (DTMA). The selected candidate will work as a member of CIMMYT's Socio-Economics Program (SEP), in close collaboration with CIMMYT's Global Maize Program (GMP). The selected Scientist will be based at one of the CIMMYT regional offices in eastern and southern Africa (Addis Ababa, Nairobi or Harare), but with frequent international travel.

The International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center, known by its Spanish acronym, CIMMYT®, is a not-for-profit research and training organization with partners in over 100 countries. Please refer to our website for more information: [www.cimmyt.org](http://www.cimmyt.org).

### Key responsibilities of this position will be:

- Seed policy dialogue around maize seed sector development at both the regional level (ESA) and country level (key delivery countries in ESA), including participation in policy fora/workshops, liaison with policy stakeholders, facilitation and advocacy.
- Diagnosis and monitoring of national and regional seed policy constraints and developments affecting the maize seed sector, including policy gaps and issues affecting seed release, production and marketing, particularly of improved stress-tolerant maize seed.
- Identify, support and enhance national and regional seed policy development options and strategies, including advocacy of best practices for maize seed sector development.
- Identify and address needs and opportunities for capacity strengthening of public and private seed sector stakeholders and institutional partners in support of seed sector development.
- Seek, build and strengthen partnerships with public and private seed sector institutions for greatest impact of stress-tolerant maize among farmers in SSA, including certifying agencies, seed trade associations, policy think tanks, regional organizations.
- Document and synthesize national and regional maize seed sector development and associated policy lessons and implications, including policy briefs and evidence-based recommendations.
- Assist CIMMYT and DTMA management in any other matters as and when required.

### We are seeking candidates with the following qualifications:

- PhD in agricultural development/policy or a related field – preferably linked to the seed sector from a well-recognized university. Candidates with an MA/MBA/MSc degree, but with extensive experience in the agricultural policy in SSA, will also be considered.
- At least five years of experience in policy analysis, development and/or advocacy.
- Management experience in complex, multidisciplinary research or development projects.
- Good partnership skills, including ability to deliver effectively and moderate meetings with partners.
- Familiarity with the agricultural development and technology delivery issues in SSA.
- Experience and knowledge of seed sector policy issues, constraints, ongoing initiatives and institutional arrangements in SSA
- Experience or at least familiarity with maize seed sector and agricultural policy in SSA.
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills in English.
- A high degree of personal organization and ability to multi-task and to work under pressure.
- Ability to work with different nationalities, as a member of a diverse work team.

***Please note this is an adapted re-advertisement of an earlier vacancy (Seed Business Development and Policy Expert - Ref. 12269). Suitable applicants to the former position are encouraged to re-apply.***

We will offer an initial contract for 3 years, which is renewable subject to continued need and funding for the position and performance of the staff member. Our internationally competitive salary and benefits include housing allowance, car, comprehensive health and life insurance, assistance for children's education, paid vacation, annual airfare, contribution to a retirement plan, and generous assistance with relocation shipment.

***CIMMYT is an equal opportunity employer. It fosters a multicultural work environment that values gender equality, teamwork, and respect for diversity. Women are encouraged to apply.***

To apply for this position, please email cover letter and CV no later than **Monday, 17 June, 2013** to Human Resources, CIMMYT (Email: [irsrecruitment@cgiar.org](mailto:irsrecruitment@cgiar.org) / Please indicate Position Reference number: **12314** in the header of your email). For further information on the selection process, please contact Guillermo Flores, Staffing Specialist, at [g.flores@cgiar.org](mailto:g.flores@cgiar.org). ***Please note that only short-listed candidates will be contacted. This position will remain open until filled.***