

Policy Trade and Value Chain Leadership in Growing & Innovative International Research Organization

ILRI seeks to recruit a dynamic Program Leader for its Policy Trade and Value Chain initiatives. Regional and global trade in livestock and livestock products is growing, but there are challenges in connecting smallholder farmers to markets, developing effective input supply systems and ensuring that the enabling and policy environment is conducive to the sustainable development of the livestock sector. The Policy Trade and Value Chain Program is a critical element of ILRI's strategy to assist in the smallholder livestock sector to achieve its potential.

The Organization

The International Livestock Research Institute or ILRI <http://www.ilri.org> conducts research for development. Working with partners worldwide, ILRI uses livestock as potent instruments for transforming livelihoods and rural economies in developing countries. ILRI's research outputs help sustainably to increase supplies of milk, meat and eggs by and for the poor and malnourished. More specifically, ILRI works to develop technological options in animal health, feeding and breeding that improve the competitiveness of small and medium-sized livestock enterprises. ILRI works to enhance access by the poor to livestock markets and trade and to ensure the safety of animal sourced foods. ILRI works to reduce the heavy tropical burden of livestock diseases, including animal pathogens that jump species and cause human illness and death. And in all these areas the organization works to increase efficiencies, reducing the environmental 'hoofprint', of the world's smallholder livestock systems. ILRI is a member of the CGIAR Consortium of Agricultural Research Centres, which supports the centres as well as multi-centre CGIAR research programs tackling some of the world's biggest global problems related to agriculture.

The Position

The successful candidate will be responsible for the following activities within ILRI:

- Lead and manage a geographically-dispersed international team of economists, social scientists, and modelers addressing a range of research on livestock policy, trade and value chain development in developing countries;
- Lead the conceptual development of analytical frameworks, methods and tools for the study of livestock product markets, value chains, trade regimes, and regulatory and investment policy environments relevant to livestock development and the action-oriented piloting of value chain interventions and strategies;
- Build collaborations with relevant institutions and organizations internationally and nationally to conduct and deliver world class research;
- Coordinate the Policy, Trade and Value Chains program with ILRI's participation in the CGIAR Research Programs (CRPs);
- Promote the use of policy research to influence policy and decision making at global, regional and national levels;
- Participate in ILRI management, particularly in achieving co-ordination with other programs and in provision of economics and other social science support to multi-disciplinary initiatives;
- Support development projects led by NGOs and other development partners to ensure use of best practice value chain interventions, and to generate objective evidence from piloting those interventions;
- Conduct and support the communication and promotion of research products and processes to a range of audiences;
- Lead and support the development of proposals to raise resources to support new research addressing the policy, trade and value chain program agenda.

Other important parameters for this position include:

- The role reports to the Deputy Director General of Integrated Sciences; post located in Nairobi, Kenya

- The position is supported by a team of direct reports that includes scientists at several levels within PTVC, Post-doctoral appointments, administrative staff, project staff and consultancies
- Willingness and availability to travel frequently, sometimes to rural areas in developing countries.
- Duration of three years with the possibility of renewal, contingent upon individual performance and continued funding.
- Strong English language skills in both presenting and writing (proficiency in other languages is an advantage)

Candidate Profile

We seek a dynamic and proven researcher with a passion for livestock the policy trade and value chain. The candidate should possess the following:

Experience

- Minimum 10 years experience post PhD in conducting livestock research, managing human resources and administration responsibilities with high levels of scientific credibility and integrity.

Skills

- A proven research record reflecting experience in research design, quantitative and qualitative analytic methods and producing peer-reviewed outputs;
- Experience in managing a multi-disciplinary and multi-national team of researchers and development practitioners, and in the associated human resource and financial management;
- Demonstrated strong experience with analysis of smallholder value chain performance, sector and trade modeling, returns on investment, consumer demand, and access to markets and services;
- Understanding of outcome-oriented research design and implementation with pro-poor and gender orientation, including communication and advocacy strategy development;
- Strong econometric and/or mathematical modeling skills, and the ability to apply them in pro-poor development research;
- Demonstrated ability to deliver multi-disciplinary research outputs and to initiate and manage cross-disciplinary research activities;
- Familiarity with aspects of livestock production and marketing, crop-livestock systems, and rural market institutions and services in developing countries;

Personal characteristics

- Bring together people and ideas in innovative ways aligned to both scientific and donor landscapes.
- Track record in bringing together, funding and leading creative teams addressing complex problems.
- Experience in building multidisciplinary teams and understand the highly dispersed and networked nature of modern science.

Education level

- A Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics, Economics, Agribusiness or other Social Science with application to agriculture or rural development, with a minimum of 8 years of experience post-PhD;
- Strong research teamwork, publication, management and communication skills.

For consideration as a candidate or to suggest a prospective candidate, please contact in confidence:

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