

IEA # 570



TAAT Wheat Consultant Field Fellow

Reports to: TAAT Wheat Value Chain Coordinator

Location: Nigeria (West Africa Lowland Hub)

Advertisement date: 27 June 2018

Closing date: 11 July 2018

Main purpose of position

The African Development Bank has funded through its African Development Fund "Technologies for African Agricultural Transformation (TAAT) program, which is a flagship initiative in support of the Bank's Feed Africa Strategy. The objectives of the TAAT Program are to scale up proven agricultural technologies and achieve a widespread and transformative impact on African agriculture in terms of enhancing productivity, food security, and income and poverty alleviation.

ICARDA is implementing the wheat component within the frame of TAAT Program, which will be executed in low-income African countries. The project activities are conducted within Biodiversity and Crop Improvement (BCI) program in close collaboration with the National Agricultural Research and Extension System (NARES,) private sector and other relevant partners in the project target countries.

ICARDA is seeking a highly qualified consultant field fellow for Nigeria (TAAT hub country for lowland irrigated wheat in West Africa) with relevant experience and ability to coordinate the implementation of wheat scaling up and capacity building activities in Nigeria and across project partner countries in West Africa lowlands.

About ICARDA

The International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) is an international autonomous, non-profit, research organization supported by the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR).

ICARDA's mission is to reduce poverty, enhance food, water and nutritional security, as well as environmental health in the face of global challenges including climate change. We do this through innovative science, strategic partnerships, linking research to development and capacity development that take into account gender equality and the role of youth in transforming the dry areas. ICARDA works in partnership with governments, universities, civil society, national agricultural research organization, other CGIAR research Centers, and the private sector. With its temporary Headquarters in Beirut, Lebanon, ICARDA operates in regional and country offices across Africa, Asia and the Middle East. For more information: www.icarda.org

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Main responsibilities

The successful candidate will among other assignments:

- Coordinate and involve in site selections for project scaling up activities, farming systems surveys and baseline information in close cooperation with the national partners and stakeholders
- Lead and coordinate the establishment and operationalization of functional Innovation Platforms (IP) and farmers field schools with the involvement of all relevant stakeholders for fast-tracking technology validation, seed multiplication, scaling up, adoption and impact along the wheat value chain in the hub country; and provide support to partners in the West Africa lowlands
- Develop, strengthen and expand excellent working relations with partners, NARES, private sector, and relevant stakeholders involved in the wheat value chain and link IP participating farmers to input and output markets
- Oversee day-to-day management and coordination of the project activities at the IP sites in Nigeria and provide technical backstopping and support to partners in the West Africa lowlands
- Ensure that Financial Management and utilization, and local procurement are conducted as per the approved annual plan of work and budget and in accordance with AfDB Rules and Regulations
- Coordinate the preparation of annual work plan and budget with the involvement of all concerned stakeholders and in compliance with donor requirements
- Coordinate and implement planned project capacity strengthening activities, including the preparation of state-of-the art training materials, technical manuals, technology brochures and fliers for targeted IP stakeholders along the wheat value chain
- Organize field days and national events for promoting project IP interventions and scaling up success stories by involving all concerned stakeholders, policy makers and donors using various local, national and regional media outlets (radio, TV, newspaper and social media platforms)
- Coordinate, organize, and timely submit regular technical and financial reports (monthly, quarterly, annual reports) of the hub and partner countries as per the reporting formats
- Present the project activities, achievements and success stories at various project-related meetings within the hub and partner countries in consultation with the TAAT wheat Project Coordinator for enhancing project impact and visibility
- Make necessary facilitation and logistic arrangements for project workshops, meetings, external auditors and Bank's supervision missions in close cooperation with the TAAT Wheat PMU and concerned national partners
- Keep close communication ties with the TAAT Wheat PMU and perform any other related duties as required by the Project Coordinator

Education, qualifications and experience

- PhD in Agriculture with a major in plant breeding, agronomy, natural resource management or related fields of the wheat value chain;
- At least 5 years of experience in project management pertaining to wheat research and development, including practical experiences in innovative and participatory approaches for technology dissemination and adoption in Africa;
- Demonstrated ability to coordinate, coach and harmoniously work with NARES partners, private sector and stakeholders in Africa;
- Excellent interpersonal and team building skills;
- Proficiency in the use of Microsoft Office applications including Word, Excel and PowerPoint;
- Fluency in written and spoken English;
- Outstanding and efficient communication skills, including by electronic means.

Terms of appointment, salary and benefits

Candidates who are nationals of African Countries are welcome to apply. The successful candidate will be offered an initial contract of 1 year, renewal subject to satisfactory performance.

How to apply

Please apply online at www.icarda.org/iea/ by 11 July 2018.

We are an equal opportunity employer and encourage applications from qualified women. Applications will be acknowledged, but only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.