

IEA # 582  
UBW # 100159

## Senior Research Assistant – Promotion of candidate varieties from wild crosses

**Reports to:** Senior Scientist – Durum Wheat Breeder, to Lentil Breeder and to Barley Breeder – High input environments

**Location:** Rabat, Morocco

**Advertisement Date:** 09 August 2018 2018

**Closing date:** 31 August 2018 or until the position is filled

### Main purpose of position

ICARDA has received funds to conduct variety research primarily in Morocco for durum wheat, barley, and lentil. The type of candidate varieties to be promoted are derived from crosses made with wild relatives of these crops. The successful candidate shall oversee all operations related to this project, with a specific focus on testing the best candidates across locations primarily in Morocco, but also interact with local and international partners from Ethiopia, Lebanon, and Senegal. Testing shall be conducted both on station and on farm. Participatory variety selection with farmers is a critical component of this job. In addition, stability analysis and application of weighted selection indexes are required to identify the best candidates for potential release. The hired person will also be required to collect high quality scientific data, support the design of meaningful breeding and social experiments, and contribute to the drafting of annual reports and scientific articles.

### About ICARDA

The International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) is an international autonomous, non-profit, research organization supported by CGIAR, a global research partnership for a food-secure future.

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](http://www.icarda.org)

### Main responsibilities

1. Plan all field experiments
2. Supervise a team of four technicians to ensure best results
3. Interact with partners from Morocco, Senegal, Lebanon, and Ethiopia to conduct meaningful selection of varieties for all sites

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4. Interact with farmers and seed companies to collect opinions and preferences
5. Conduct statistical analysis
6. Compile annual reports
7. Contribute to publications and prepare scientific presentation material Represent ICARDA at national and international fora
8. Perform any other relevant duty as required by the ICARDA scientists

## Education, qualifications and experience

### Essential qualifications and competencies

- Master in Agriculture Science with at least 3 years of experience in breeding based research.
- Perfect grasp of statistical analysis
- Proven ability to compile reports and contribute to research articles
- Demonstrated ability to work effectively in multicultural and multinational teams, including scientist from other disciplines
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills in English

### Desirable qualifications and competencies

- Knowledge of Arabic and/or French language
- Previous experience in breeding research
- Previous experience in the use of wild relatives for breeding
- Driving license

## Terms of appointment, salary and benefits

This is a nationally recruited position for which ICARDA offers an attractive compensation package including a competitive salary, medical insurance, 30 days of annual leave, five months' maternity leave, 15 days' paternity leave. The successful candidate will be offered an initial contract of 2 years, renewable subject to satisfactory performance. The first year will be probationary period.

## How to apply

Please apply online at [www.icarda.org/iea/](http://www.icarda.org/iea/) by 31 August 2018.

**ICARDA is committed to increasing women representation in its workforce and strongly encourages applications from qualified women.**

**Applications will be acknowledged, but only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.**