



International Potato Center
POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT
Ref.: 2020/009/CON/KE/SSA

Consultant – Senior Research Associate

The International Potato Center (CIP) is seeking to recruit a highly talented **Senior Research Associate** on a consultancy basis.

The Position: The International Potato Center (CIP) is seeking a dynamic and ambitious Consultant – Senior Research Associate (Agronomist) to contribute to Development and Delivery of Biofortified Crops at Scale (DDBIO) – Kenya project implementation. The Consultant will provide expertise in the design and direct implementation of a cost effective and sustainable sweetpotato seed system for DDBIO in Kenya. He/she will contribute to efforts to ensure and assure affordable, accessible and quality sweetpotato planting material needed to scale up the orange-fleshed sweetpotato (OFSP) in Kenya.

The consultant will work closely with the DDBIO Kenya Team Leader, project implementing partners, and with the CIP country and global teams

Key responsibilities:

- Contribute to the design and direct the implementation of a sustainable sweetpotato seed systems strategy for DDBIO – Kenya that will assure quality and accessibility of sweetpotato planting material for production and commercialization of the sweetpotato value chain.
- Design and implement a working, cost-effective and timely planting material dissemination approaches and root production plans with partners to enhance OFSP production among households both for food and nutrition security as well as commercialization.
- Work and collaborate with national government partners (KALRO/KEPHIS) and other stakeholders to initiate, coordinate and manage the National Performance Evaluation (NPTs) and varietal release process for developing commercially viable OFSP varieties.
- Participate in the development and, where possible, delivery of appropriate training modules in priority topics such as production, agronomy, post-harvesting management etc. The training will target sweetpotato value chain actors including farmers, extension agents, aggregators, processors etc.
- Provide support for the DDBIO M&E by facilitating timely, accurate and routine data collection required for project reports.
- Provide the technical expertise for private commercial partners and support their agronomist and extension staff to achieve the desired quality and quantity of raw materials for the successful puree processing business.

- Working with other stakeholders and colleagues develop linkages and contribute to online platforms for exchange of information about OFSP for widespread adoption.

Selection Criteria

- MSc in agronomy, breeding, crop science or a related field.
- Minimum of 8 years of experience working with public and/or private organizations in seed systems or agronomy.
- Experience working with sweet potato and/or other vegetative propagated crops.
- Experience in designing and conducting and analysis of on-farm agronomic experiments.
- Experience with participatory evaluation of new technologies, innovations with farmers.
- Experimental design, Implementation, data collection, analysis and writing of scientific papers.
- Fluent in Kiswahili.
- Advanced written and oral communication skills in English.

Why should you consider this opportunity?

- CIP is a global and reputable international organization that has a strong, state-of-the-art R&D background, and is a recent World Food Prize Winner and awarded with the AI-Sumait Award for our Orange Flesh Sweet Potato work in Africa.
- CIP is dedicated to achieving food security, improved nutrition and well-being, and gender equality for poor people in root and tuber farming and food systems of the developing world.
- CIP is a member of the CGIAR Consortium, a network of 15 research centers that are mostly located in the developing world and supported by more than 50 donor members.

What are the conditions?

This is a national consultancy position limited to Kenya nationals and permanent residents only. The consultancy will be for a period of **four months**.

How to apply?

Visit the following link: <http://cipotato.org/open-vacancies/> and submit your cover letter and a full C.V. with your references. Screening of applications will begin on **April 10, 2020** and will continue until the post is filled. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.

***Learn more about CIP by accessing our web site at <http://www.cipotato.org>
CIP is an equal opportunity employer. Qualified women are particularly encouraged to apply***

CIP does not charge a fee at any stage of the recruitment process (application, interview meeting, processing or training). CIP also does not concern itself with information on applicants' bank accounts.