



VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

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POSTDOCTORAL FELLOW

The International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology (*icipe*) is a pan-African Centre of excellence in research for development and capacity building in insect science and its applications. Its mission is to help alleviate poverty, ensure food and nutritional security, and improve the overall health status of people in the tropics. It does so by developing and extending management tools and strategies for harmful and useful arthropods while preserving the natural resource base. Since its establishment in 1970, *icipe* has become a significant contributor to science and innovation required to meet the health and food security challenges of sub-Saharan Africa. The Centre has achieved this status by developing alternative and environmentally friendly pest and vector management technologies and products that are effective, selective, non-polluting, non-resistance-inducing, and affordable to resource-limited rural and urban communities. *icipe* is headquartered in Nairobi, Kenya, and has operations in more than 40 African countries as well as thriving partnerships with universities and research organizations across the world. Employing over 500 international and national staff, *icipe* also has approximately 150 graduate students who contribute to its research portfolio annually. For additional information, visit www.icipe.org

Please also download *icipe*'s Vision and Strategy 2021–2025:

<http://www.icipe.org/publications/corporate-publications/vision-and-strategy>.

icipe seeks to recruit a **Postdoctoral Fellow** under the **Agriculture & Climate Change Thematic Research Programme (TRP)**. The position is tenable at the *icipe* Duduville Campus in Nairobi and will be offered for an initial contract of 2 years, renewable subject to continued funding and the staff member's performance. A competitive and generous compensation package will be offered to the right candidate for the position. Furthermore, the incumbent will receive paid annual vacation, return airfare for themselves and their dependents to their nominated home base each year, and duty-free privileges. If the successful candidate is appointed from outside Kenya, he or she will be offered support to relocate to the country and settle in Nairobi.

Living in Nairobi, Kenya

Nairobi is the capital and largest city of Kenya, has a population of over three million, hosts all the urban and social amenities, and offers a comfortable, convenient and pleasurable life. A wide variety of excellent international schools and well-equipped medical facilities are open 24/7 in Nairobi. The city is also accessible by various reputable international airline carriers. Nairobi has a thriving international research scene, hosting various CGIAR Centres, as well as several UN agencies. Although it is important to be conscious of security, Kenyans are warm and welcoming of visitors.

Overall Purpose of the Job

This position will support research for development (R4D) activities in the Building Equitable Climate-Resilient African Bean & INsect Sectors (BRAINS) project. The BRAINS project aims to use novel evidence-based ideas originating from bean, fruit tree crops and beneficial insect products to innovate through R4D, co-create and take proven technologies to scale through connection of knowledge to industry actors and national partners with policy support from government in 15 sub-Saharan countries.

The broad roles and responsibilities of the position holder in the BRAINS project will be to implement innovative R4D technologies for pest (e.g., fruit flies, false codling moth) management in associated fruit tree crops (e.g., mango and avocado) and beneficial insects farming enterprises (bees and pollination; insects for food, feed and frass fertilizers) developed by *icipe* in bean corridors developed by PABRA and

the Alliance of Bioversity and CIAT to provide sustainable and comprehensive solutions for holistic strengthening and resilience of the food systems, enhance gender equity, job creation and the sustainability of small-scale agriculture. It is expected that such an integrated approach will facilitate carbon farming to mitigate climate change and ensure prosperous livelihood especially for women and youth.

Specific Duties

- Support the scaling of integrated pest management (IPM) technologies (such as biopesticides, proteins baits, mass trapping, male annihilation technique, repellents, field sanitation/use of augmentorium, releases of parasitoids) and beneficial insects farming enterprises (bees and pollination; insects for food, feed and frass fertilizers) in fruit trees (mango and avocado) and bean corridors in the project target countries.
- Pro-actively contribute to the promotion and upscaling of agrisilviculture in bean and fruit tree cropping systems to enhance carbon sequestration and to conserve biodiversity.
- Contribute to the timely preparation of project implementation plans, budgets, and scientific and technical reports to the donors.
- Undertake research activities to develop nature-based management tools for Bean Stem Maggot flies *Ophiomyia* species.
- Co-supervise students to develop critical skills including science writing, reporting, and peer review.
- Contribute to resource mobilization to further develop, grow, and expand the impact of the newly developed tools and technology bundles.
- Closely collaborate with local, national, regional and international institutions as well as private sector partners in implementing activities in the participating countries.
- Provide assistance to lead researchers in the project.
- Carry out any other duties commensurate with experience which may be assigned from time to time.

Requirements/Qualifications

- PhD in Entomology or a related field from a reputable university.
- At least 1 year of experience gained at either a research organization or a university.
- Experience in technology transfer and dissemination to end-users.
- Experience in the design, development, and testing of innovative strategies for mass rearing and harvesting of edible insects.
- Experience in pest ecology and management within a plant or environmental health setting (with proven laboratory and field-based experience).
- Experience in capacity building through supervision and mentorship of M.Sc. students, research assistants, technicians, and interns.
- Good publication track record with at least 7 published peer-reviewed papers.
- Track record in entomology and interdisciplinary research in tropical insect science.

Core Competencies

- Ability to work independently with minimum supervision.
- Good communication and interpersonal skills.
- Strong organizational and leadership skills.
- Willingness to engage in travel and field work.
- Fluency in the English language

Reporting

This position reports to the Head of Agriculture & Climate Change Thematic Research Programme (TRP).

How to Apply

Applications will be accepted up to 22nd August 2025. Interested applicants should submit: (a) a confidential cover letter; (b) a detailed CV with names and addresses of 3 referees (including e-mail addresses); (c) a statement illustrating suitability against the listed qualifications/ competencies/abilities and skills; (d) two published papers.

Candidates are required to apply online through <http://recruit.icipe.org> or by email: recruitment@icipe.org

icipe is an equal-opportunity employer. It fosters a multicultural work environment that values gender equity, teamwork, and respect for diversity. Consideration for employment is given to qualified applicants regardless of race, color, age, gender, religion, disability status, national and ethnic origin, or social status.