

Research Assistant

Research Assistant, TROPICAL FORAGES PROGRAM (Hanoi, Vietnam)

The International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT) works to reduce hunger and poverty, and improve human nutrition in the tropics, through research aimed at achieving a sustainable food future. CIAT is a member of the CGIAR (www.cgiar.org), a global partnership that unites organizations engaged in research for a food secure future. CIAT's research focuses on increasing productivity of key tropical crops, reversing soil and land degradation, and using information to foster better decisions about issues such as climate change and environmental management. CIAT engages with a broad range of institutions and groups for collaborative research, capacity building and knowledge networking in Asia.

CIAT and partners across the tropics promote the widespread adoption of Tropical Forages along with other improved feeding methods among the large number of farmers, mainly on small and medium-sized holdings. Our research aims to identify approaches to sustainable intensification that will scale up the livelihood and environmental benefits of forage-based systems.

CIAT scientists are studying the current and potential climate change impacts of various livestock production systems in the tropics and defining strategies for large-scale intensification of livestock production systems that are more climate friendly, more efficient in using resources, and more economically and ecologically sustainable.

The Position:

The Research Assistant – Tropical Forages Program will support the Program coordinator for the implementation of two main projects: the BMZ-funded project entitled “Hands and Minds connected to boost Eco-efficiency on Smallholder Livestock-Crop Systems” as well as a collaborative project with the Climate Change team aiming at carbon cycle assessment in farming systems of the region.

Main Responsibilities:

- Support the implementation of activities in Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam in collaboration with national partners, including field trials and workshops
- Measure greenhouse gases emissions in different farming systems of the region and contribute to carbon cycle assessments

- Data management and analysis
- Contribute to context understanding and identification of eco-efficient management solutions
- Contribute to research publications and reporting
- Management of the forages seed store

Required Qualifications:

- Master degree in Agriculture, or Environmental Sciences.
- Minimum 1 year experience in similar position
- Working experience with mixed crop-livestock systems
- Good understanding of integrated systems and environmental impacts of livestock production
- Experience in participatory research and management of field trials
- Experience with field data measurement
- Strong analytical and problem-solving skills
- Good computer skills including the use of statistical packages
- Capacity to work independently in remote areas
- Willingness to travel and to spend time in the field
- Ability to work in interdisciplinary and international team
- Excellent communication and networking skills
- Excellent written and spoken English

Terms of employment:

This is a nationally recruited position with an initial 7-month contract and can be renewable depending on performance and availability of resources. The position will be based at the CIAT Asia regional office in Hanoi, Vietnam, and will report directly to CIAT's Forages and livestock theme coordinator. CIAT offers a multicultural, collegial research environment with competitive salary and excellent benefits. CIAT is an equal opportunity employer, and strives for staff diversity in gender and nationality.

Applications

Applicants are invited to send a cover letter illustrating their suitability for the above position against the listed qualifications, competencies, skills together with a detailed curriculum vitae, including names and addresses of three referees knowledgeable about the candidate's professional qualifications and work experience. All correspondence should be addressed to the CIAT Asia Human Resources Office to Ms. Khuong Thanh Thuy (t.khuong@cgiar.org) and clearly indicate "Research Assistant – Tropical Forages Program".

Closing date for applications: May 31 2017, or until a suitable candidate is identified.

Pre-application inquiries may be addressed to the Forages and Livestock theme coordinator (s.douxchamps@cgiar.org)

We invite you to learn more

at: <http://www.ciat.cgiar.org> OR <http://ciat.cgiar.org/about/strategy/sustainable-food-systems/> OR <http://a4nh.cgiar.org/>