

VACANCY POSTINGS

The International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) is a not-for-profit institution that generates agricultural innovations to meet Africa's most pressing challenges of hunger, malnutrition, poverty, and natural resource degradation. Working with various partners across sub-Saharan Africa, we improve livelihoods, enhance food and nutrition security, increase employment, and preserve natural resource integrity. IITA is a member of CGIAR, a global agriculture research partnership for a food secure future. Please visit <http://www.iita.org/> for more information on IITA.

1. PROJECT MANAGER

IITA invites applications for the nationally recruited position of Project Manager. IITA seeks a highly motivated and experienced Project Manager for the project Understanding and Enhancing Adoption of Conservation Agriculture in Smallholder Farming Systems of Southern Africa (ACASA) to be implemented in Malawi, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. The objectives of the project are: (1) To identify barriers to adoption of conservation agriculture (CA) practices, including biophysical, socioeconomic, and institutional and policy constraints; (2) To identify labor-efficient mechanization options for smallholder farmers; and (3) To identify approaches and strategies for inclusive scaling of CA practices. The project will go beyond bio-physical science (agronomic benefits) to encompass social and scaling science to understand not only the bio-physical performance but also the socio-economic and institutional drivers and barriers to adoption of CA technologies and practices.

POSITION RESPONSIBILITIES:

Under the guidance of the project leader (senior agricultural economist), the successful candidate will:

- Manage the overall activities of project; develop a strong, coherent technical vision and initiate innovative strategies across the project activities.
- Ensure effective cooperation and coordination among staff, partners and other stakeholders of the project.
- Work closely with other project staff, develop a performance management plan for the project and monitor the implementation processes to track milestones and report on standard performance indicators, collect monitoring data, upload them on MARLO/MEL online systems
- Coordinate project planning, implementation, and evaluation with the implementing partners.
- Establish and strengthen partnerships and facilitate learning and knowledge sharing with diverse stakeholder groups along the value chain (e.g. NGOs promoting

- conservation agriculture, policy makers, donors, researchers, extension workers, farmer organizations, etc.).
- Organize regular planning and review meetings and training workshops as well as knowledge sharing events with all stakeholders and implementing partners.
 - Coordinate the preparation and submission of technical and financial reports to IITA, the donor, and the CGIAR Research Program on Climate Change, Agriculture, and Food Security (CCAFS).
 - Coordinate capacity building activities of the project.
 - Produce project communication products (e.g. stories, annual reports, policy briefs, slide presentations, newsletters, blogs, and posters) for different audiences in collaboration with the project team and with support from IITA Communication Office.
 - Carry out any other duties as may be assigned by the supervisor.

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS AND SKILLS

- MSc degree in Agricultural Economics, Agribusiness, Agricultural Extension, Rural Development, or related fields.
- Experience of at least 8 years as a project manager of agricultural research or development projects in Malawi.
- Ability to work collegially and collaboratively in a multidisciplinary and multi-cultural environment.
- Demonstrated communication, networking and organizational skills and ability to prepare high quality reports.
- Demonstrated ability in stakeholder and partner engagement and policy dialogue.
- Excellent computer skills (Outlook, Excel, Word and Power Point).
- Strong communication skills in spoken and written English.
- Dynamic, curious, creative and self-motivated.

2. RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

IITA invites applications for the nationally recruited position of Research Associate. IITA seeks a highly motivated and experienced Research Associate for the project Understanding and Enhancing Adoption of Conservation Agriculture in Smallholder Farming Systems of Southern Africa (ACASA) to be implemented in Malawi, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. The objectives of the project are: (1) To identify barriers to adoption of conservation agriculture (CA) practices, including biophysical, socioeconomic, and institutional and policy constraints; (2) To identify labor-efficient mechanization options for smallholder farmers; and (3) To identify approaches and strategies for inclusive scaling of CA practices. The project will go beyond bio-physical science (agronomic benefits) to encompass social and scaling science to understand not only the bio-physical performance but also the socio-economic and institutional drivers and barriers to adoption of CA technologies and practices.

POSITION RESPONSIBILITIES:

Under the guidance of the Socio-economist for the ACASA project, the successful candidate will:

- Design and conduct household surveys.
- Conduct focus group discussions and key informant interviews.
- Develop a database and conduct a meta-analysis of available data from surveys and on-station/on-farm experiments on adoption and benefits of conservation agriculture practices in Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe.
- Conduct high-quality, scholarly literature reviews.
- Analyze data and contribute to the writing of research reports, journal articles, policy briefs, and other publications of relevance to the project.
- Assist with the organization of stakeholder workshops and consultations.
- Participate in scientific workshops and conferences.
- Train survey supervisors and enumerators.
- Carry out any other duties as may be assigned by the supervisor.

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS AND SKILLS

- MSc degree in Agric. Economics or Agribusiness from a recognized university.
- Experience conducting economic analysis and familiarity/proficiency with various statistical software packages, such as Stata.
- Demonstrated ability to write research reports and journal papers.
- Familiarity with both quantitative and qualitative research methodologies.
- Proficiency with computer assisted personal interview (CAPI) software such as ODK, CSPro, etc.
- An active interest in socio-economics research.
- Excellent spoken and written English.
- Ability to work independently.

How to Apply

Applications must include covering letter, curriculum vitae, and names and addresses of three professional referees (which must include either the Head of the applicant's current or previous organization or applicant's direct Supervisor/Superior at his/her present or former place of work). Interested applicants should forward their applications by email to IITA-Malawi@cgiar.org or by post to: The Station Administrator, International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA), Chitedze Research Station, Off Mchinji Road, P.O. Box 30258, Lilongwe 3, Malawi.

Closing Date: 31st March 2020

IITA is an equal opportunity employer and particularly welcomes applications from women candidates. Please note that only short-listed candidates will be contacted.