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POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

Sub-Regional Coordinator, Strategic Analysis & Knowledge Support Systems (SAKSS), Southern Africa

The *International Water Management Institute* (IWMI), based in Colombo, Sri Lanka, conducts public goods research and capacity building activities related to water and land management, with the goal of improving food security, livelihoods, and the natural environment in developing countries. By working with its diverse partners and the Future Harvest Centers supported by the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR), IWMI is creating innovative approaches to translate natural resource management research into actionable recommendations for policymakers, resource managers and poor rural communities.

International Crop Research Institute for the Semi-arid Tropics (ICRISAT) founded in 1972 and based in Hyerabad, India is charged with the mission of improving the crop productivity, natural resource management and the livelihoods of communities living in the semi-arid tropics (SAT) of the world. ICRISAT has the crop improvement mandate for sorghum, millet, groundnut, chickpea and pigeonpea, as well as regionally relevant programs for natural resource management and policy analysis. The Institute maintains regional offices in Malawi, Mozambique and Zimbabwe.

SAKSS. The Strategic Analysis and Knowledge Support Systems Program (SAKSS) is a new initiative to strengthen information exchange, policy analysis and policy dialogue relating to agricultural growth and poverty alleviation in Africa. An important partner in southern Africa is the Food and Natural Resources Policy Analysis Network (FANRPAN) of Southern Africa. FANRPAN will lead a SAKSS-SA Steering Committee to provide broad direction to the program in the region.

IWMI and ICRISAT jointly seek a dynamic individual for the position of Sub-Regional Coordinator to lead the development of the SAKSS node in southern Africa. The successful candidate will be based in IWMI's regional office in Pretoria, South Africa, but will require considerable travel in the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) region. Strong preference will be given to candidates from Africa, and especially from Southern Africa.

The Sub-regional Coordinator, SAKSS-SA, under the supervision of the head of IWMI's Southern Africa Regional Office, will lead the establishment and implementation of the Southern African Node of the Strategic Analysis and Knowledge Support Systems (SAKSS). It is a joint IWMI-ICRISAT appointment but will be governed by IWMI's terms and conditions of employment.

Responsibilities

- Lead the establishment of a SAKSS network promoting the collaborative analysis of agricultural investment opportunities and impacts in southern Africa.
- Promote greater regional collaboration in the collection and sharing of data useful for poverty assessments and agricultural investment analysis in this region.
- Promote greater knowledge and data sharing through web-based platforms, and the coordination of dialogue linking policy analysis and policy making.
- Manage program budgets, raise resources and prepare progress reports relevant to diverse stakeholder groups.
- Acting as champion for SAKSS in the sense of achieving active participation and support from regional institutions, governments, donors, private sector investors, farmers' organizations and research institutions and other clients.

Skills & Abilities

- Ability to gain the respect of, and communicate effectively with, senior government and donor officials while also being respected for her/his conceptual and research capacities.
- Proven skills in building network linkages, promoting information exchange and policy analysis relating to agriculture and poverty alleviation.
- Excellent leadership, management, interpersonal, networking and team building skills

Qualifications & Experience

- Ph.D. preferred with at least five years of experience, in a relevant discipline related to agricultural and rural development or public policy; professional experience should be in policy research and analysis, markets and trade, and/or rural development.
- Familiarity with development approaches and best practices in knowledge management concepts and their application
- Strong evidence of fund-raising capacity
- Computer literacy and database management capabilities
- Excellent written and oral communication skills in English; fluency in Portuguese is an added advantage
- Excellent knowledge of and experience in Southern Africa is a distinct advantage.

Salary and Benefits

This is an *Internationally Recruited Staff* position with competitive salary and benefits package, which includes a health package, retirement benefits, a housing allowance, and annual home leave travel and education assistance.

The position will be for two years with the possibility of extension. Please send your résumé together with list of publications, and names and addresses of three referees to: Human Resources Office, IWMI, P.O. Box 2075, Colombo, Sri Lanka; Email: work-at-iwmi@cgiar.org Deadline: 10 April 2005

For further information visit IWMI - http://www.iwmi.org ICRISAT - http://www.icrisat.org