

SENIOR ECONOMIST POSITION

Position Summary

The International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) seeks a qualified candidate to serve as a senior economist and key liaison person for the Nigerian Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (FMARD). The position is a one-year full-time consultant contract to be based in Abuja, Nigeria. The selected candidate will report directly to the Programme Leader of the Nigeria Strategy Support Program (NSSP). NSSP, which operates out of IFPRI's Nigeria country office in Abuja, undertakes research on development strategy and policy issues in relation to agriculture, rural markets, the food system, and poverty reduction in Nigeria. The Program falls under IFPRI's Development Strategy and Governance Division.

Essential Duties

Specific duties include but are not limited to:

- Conducting high-quality research and analysis related broadly to agriculture policy. Some specific areas of potential research include rural markets, food security, public and private investments in agriculture, governance systems in rural services, commodity value chains, and technology adoption
- Strengthening capacity through research collaboration and training events
- Serving as a liaison with FMARD and key technical and policy advisors of the Minister in the provision of research, technical support, and capacity strengthening activities for policy analysis
- Maintaining active policy communication with national counterparts through individual consultations, regular seminars, policy research briefs, and other fora
- Establishing active links with various Nigerian and Nigeria-based research, government, private sector, and non-government institutions to further NSSP's work
- Contribute to reporting on NSSP program/project activities, including responding to and carrying out internal and external reviews of research outputs
- Contribute to other activities as needed that enhance NSSP's research and capacity building activities

Required Qualifications:

- PhD in Agricultural Economics, Economics, Public Policy, or closely related field
- 10-15 years of post-PhD experience gained in relevant employment
- Strong publication record in academic peer-reviewed journals
- Demonstrated research experience in agricultural and economic policy analysis
- Demonstrated experience in effective interactions with researchers, private sector bodies, policymakers, donors, and civil society, facilitating the policy impact of research
- Demonstrated ability to perform critical analyses of own as well as existing research
- Willingness to travel extensively within Nigeria, as required
- Excellent written and spoken English communication skills with demonstrated excellence in written and oral presentations
- Demonstrated and relevant computer literacy (Microsoft applications; statistical softwares)
- Demonstrated interaction and participation in professional networks in agricultural economics, economics, or related fields
- Experience supervising and/or coordinating junior research staff

To apply, please send a cover letter and CV (resumé) to ifpri-nigeria@cgiar.org. The file name of the cover letter should be your last name and "letter", e.g. "smith_letter.doc", and the CV file should be named last name and "cv" (e.g. "smith_cv.doc"). Files can be in Microsoft Word or PDF format. **The deadline for application is 12. April, 2012, or until filled.**