



INTER-AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR COOPERATION ON AGRICULTURE
 JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT NO. 02-2010

<p align="center">POSITION</p> <p align="center">Coordinator of the "Agro-biotechnology and Biosafety" Line of Action</p>	<p align="center">TYPE OF APPOINTMENT</p> <p align="center">Temporary International Professional Personnel (up to 2 year appointment)</p>	<p align="center">DATE OF ANNOUNCEMENT</p> <p align="center">August 16, 2010 to September 15, 2010</p>
<p align="center">DUTY STATION</p> <p align="center">IICA Headquarters, San Jose, Costa Rica</p>	<p align="center">FINANCING</p> <p align="center">Quota</p>	<p align="center">CLASSIFICATION</p> <p align="center">Remuneration: P-6 The compensation and benefits package is defined based on professional background, experience and family situation.</p>
<p>DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:</p> <p>General:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To spearhead and coordinate the "Biotechnology and Biosafety" Line of Action of the "Innovation for Productivity and Competitiveness Program," pursuant to the guidelines established in IICA's 2010-2014 Medium-term Plan (MTP) and by the Directorate of Technical Cooperation; and, to support the Line of Action's integration with other priority Units, within the framework of the Institute's core areas of strategic action. • To consolidate IICA's hemispheric Line of Action related to biotechnology and biosafety, with emphasis on information and knowledge management; the design of policies for the development, adoption, and safe use of agro-biotechnologies and genetic resources; the implementation of international agreements; and the strengthening of capabilities for the management of those processes and agreements. <p>Specific:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To spearhead IICA's technical cooperation on topics related to the Line of Action, developing guidelines and approaches in a participatory manner and coordinating their execution with the Institute's professionals. 2. In a participatory manner, to develop approaches for ensuring the effectiveness and quality of the Institute's technical cooperation on topics related to the Line of Action, and provide technical support and follow-up to their implementation at the hemispheric, regional, and national levels. 3. To coordinate, conduct, and carry out general and specific analyses of the situation and outlook for agriculture, science, and biotechnologies, to identify new possibilities and needs for biotechnology and biosafety in the hemisphere. 		<p>REQUIREMENTS:</p> <p>Academic qualifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ph.D. in a field of the agricultural or biological sciences that equips the candidate for the position. • Great importance will be attached to demonstrable knowledge and specialized courses in biotechnology and biosafety, policies and institution building, and knowledge management applied to biotechnologies and biosafety. <p>Experience:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least 10 years in the field of the planning, organization, and management of agricultural research / extension / innovation, and in the formulation and implementation of plans and projects in those fields, including the development of links between the public and private sectors. • Knowledge of the LAC agrifood system, national science and technology systems and, in particular, the regional and international systems and organizations linked to biotechnology and biosafety. • High level of knowledge of the international agreements on biotechnology and biosafety (e.g., the Cartagena Protocol and Codex Alimentarius), the latest developments in that regard and the ongoing negotiating processes. • Recognized record of accomplishment and experience in the design and implementation of policies and institutional arrangements for the promotion of research / transfer / extension related to agro-biotechnologies; and in the implementation of impact assessments of agro-biotechnologies. • Work experience with national public and private entities and in research, extension and innovation networks, and funding programs for such activities at the national, regional and international levels.

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. To guide, develop and validate conceptual frameworks and methodological guidelines for the design and implementation of the policies and institutional frameworks required for agro-biotechnologies/biosafety, to make them available to the countries. 5. To set up, lead, and coordinate institutional teams and networks, and develop strategies for providing technical cooperation at the hemispheric, regional, and national levels, in collaboration and coordination with other IICA units. 6. To strengthen the hemispheric dialogue on biotechnology and biosafety, with a view to identifying the priorities of, and opportunities for, the countries, promoting their participation in global forums, and seeking funding for initiatives designed to facilitate the adoption and the safe use of agro-biotechnologies. 7. To promote, negotiate, and manage alliances with institutions and international mechanisms involved in biotechnology and biosafety (including the institutions of technical and scientific excellence of developed countries), to enhance the capabilities of the member countries in the field of technological innovation. 8. To identify opportunities for the management and implementation of regional and hemispheric projects and initiatives, analyze their viability and impact, and contribute to their formulation and implementation in countries and regions. 9. To oversee processes and develop competencies for managing knowledge (including the creation and coordination of networks of professionals), sharing and improving access to information for innovation on the topics related to the Line of Action, and making better use of ICT tools. 10. To promote the adoption and safe management of agro-biotechnologies and genetic materials, in response to specific needs. 11. To advise the Director General and other Institute Units on topics related to the Line of Action. 12. To foster initiatives and proposals for securing external financing for projects and actions aimed at promoting the adoption of biotechnologies and institutional biosafety frameworks. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capabilities and skills required for the identification, negotiation, and implementation of alliances with potential strategic partners on matters related to the “Agro-biotechnology and Biosafety” Line of Action. • Ability to manage multidisciplinary groups and relations with government and supranational agencies. • Extremely conversant with the management of knowledge for research, extension, and technological innovation, and with the principal information and communications technologies. <p>Special competences:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General leadership and leadership of technical teams. • Readiness and ability to work as a member of a team. • Ability to communicate effectively (oral and written communication). • Work geared to the attainment of objectives and quantifiable results. • Ability to resolve conflicts. • Use of software programs and Internet applications. <p>Languages:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fluent written and oral communication skills in Spanish and English, enabling the candidate to perform the duties and responsibilities required. • Great importance will be attached to additional knowledge of Portuguese and French.
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Applications must be submitted in a personal capacity; the closing date for applications is September 15, 2010. Résumés, accompanied by a cover letter, should be sent to IICA’s Human Talent Management Division by email (redutamientorhsc@iica.int). The Institute promotes the principle of equal opportunities for all. All received applications will be considered regardless of gender, race, ethnic origin, religion or age.