



World Vegetable Center

Job announcement

Research Assistant – Genetic Resources Imaging and Phenotyping (project-based)

Headquarters, Shanhua, Tainan, Taiwan

The World Vegetable Center (WorldVeg) is a non-profit, autonomous international agricultural research center with headquarters in Taiwan and five regional offices around the globe. WorldVeg's research and development work focuses on breeding improved vegetable lines, developing and promoting good production practices, reducing postharvest losses, and improving the nutritional value of vegetables. The center aims to raise awareness of the importance of vegetables for improved health and global poverty alleviation. For more information, please visit our website: worldveg.org.

WorldVeg seeks an enthusiastic and dedicated **Research Assistant (RA) – Genetic Resources Imaging and Phenotyping** to support image processing and analysis to develop reference samples, assess seed quality, and characterize the morphology of plant parts, including seeds. The development of new statistical techniques in machine learning and artificial intelligence, provides new opportunities for research and analysis on crop diversity. The RA will work with the world's largest international public vegetable genebank, which conserves more than 55,000 seed samples of vegetable varieties and crop wild relatives. As part of a multidisciplinary team of genebank curators and information specialists, the RA will be responsible for image workflow and analysis, and the maintenance of image taking equipment.

The ideal candidate will be well organized, possess strong skills in systematic thinking and image-based analytics, and demonstrate a keen interest in biodiversity conservation and sustainable development. The position requires a proactive individual who enjoys working with international stakeholders and contributing to the continuous improvement of genebank procedures within a collaborative team environment.

Key Responsibilities:

- Maintain the multispectral and RGB image-taking equipment.
- Manage, curate, and analyze image data of seeds and plants.
- Develop standard procedures for image-based reference samples, refine analytical methods and workflows for seed quality assessment, and image-based morphological characterization.
- Conduct a literature review on the application of image analysis in phenotyping and the application of novel model approaches, including artificial intelligence.
- Perform other duties as required by the Center and assigned by supervisors.

Required Qualifications and Competencies (Technical and Behavioral)

A. Technical: (specialized knowledge and expertise required to perform specific tasks).

- Master's degree in Agriculture, Plant Sciences, or Data Sciences.
- Excellent communication skills (in writing and speaking) in both Mandarin and English.
- Proficient in data and image management and analysis.
- Familiarity with image analysis tools (e.g., ImageJ, Python, R).

B. Behavioral: (traits, abilities, and motivations needed to deliver effective performance).

- Able to work as a member of interdisciplinary research teams in a multicultural, multinational environment.
- Enthusiastic and skilled in interacting with people in person and online.
- Ability to work on and track multiple activities simultaneously.
- Abilities in problem-solving.

Note: This is a Nationally Recruited Staff (NRS) and project-based position.

The candidate we hire will embody WorldVeg's Five Core Values:

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| 1. <i>Dedication to Innovation and Knowledge Sharing</i> | Supports the conduct of world-class science, respects ethical standards, and is committed to transparently sharing results. |
| 2. <i>Commitment to Impact</i> | Aspires to achieve positive, tangible, and lasting impact contributing to Sustainable Development Goals. |
| 3. <i>Commitment to Partnerships</i> | Believes in the value of partnerships to advance research for development. |
| 4. <i>Respect for People</i> | Respect the diversity of gender, culture, ethnic origin, religion, age, beliefs, and views. |
| 5. <i>Respect for the Environment</i> | Strives to minimize its environmental impact and to introduce greener technology and practices. |

How to Apply: Applicants should submit a letter of application explaining their suitability for and interest in the position along with a curriculum vitae in English, a recent passport-size photograph, names and addresses (including telephone and e-mail) of three referees, and date of availability to jobapply@worldveg.org or the job bank site before 2 March 2026. Please mention the position title in the subject line.