

**Gender Specialist (Individual Consultant)**

The World Vegetable Center (WorldVeg) is a nonprofit, autonomous international agricultural research center with headquarters in Taiwan and regional offices around the globe. WorldVeg conducts research and development programs that contribute to improved incomes and diets in the developing world through increased production and consumption of nutritious and health-promoting vegetables. For more information, please visit our website: [www.avrdc.org](http://www.avrdc.org).

**The Project:**

The project “Improved Mungbean Harvesting and Seed Production Systems for Bangladesh, Myanmar and Pakistan” is funded by the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) for a period of 4 years from 2017-2021. Mungbean is an important food crop in South Asia. Mungbean production in South Asia is labor intensive as nearly all work is done by hand; a lot of it by women. Harvesting in particular is very labor intensive. National partners have identified mechanical harvesting, using altered rice or wheat harvesters, as a priority to address production constraints. Such practices are becoming increasingly common in India and Pakistan, but not yet in Bangladesh and Myanmar. The project will pilot the use of mechanical harvesting and associated farm practices. Mechanization could potentially reduce drudgery for women, but it is also likely to make mungbean a men's crop with unknown consequences for women. Therefore, this research aims to develop a better understanding of the potential gendered impact of mechanization and explore options for how women can engage in and benefit from business models for harvesting services. The study will use a mixed method approach, combining quantitative and qualitative methods. The project will do intensive capacity building of national partners in gender research.

**Key Responsibilities:**

The Consultant will take responsibility for the gender research component of the project. A post-doctoral researcher working in the project will contribute to the quantitative research while the Consultant is expected to have a stronger focus on the qualitative research. The Consultant will do capacity building among a small group of researchers from Bangladesh and Myanmar through in-country gender research workshops. The Consultant will design a study protocol and data collection tools, monitor the data collection, interpret the data and write one or more scientific articles. At all stages of the work, the Consultant will work closely with the WorldVeg project team and national partners. The Consultant will report to the Lead Scientist – Impact Evaluation, who is responsible for the social science component of this project.

**The Person:**

Applicants must hold a PhD degree in rural sociology, anthropology or development studies with a focus on qualitative development research and with experience in gender research. Applicants with an MA/MSc degree in these areas will be considered if they have considerable experience. The candidate must have the ability to do independent research as proven by a publication record. He/she must have strong communication skills in spoken and written English. The candidate must be able to work with a multidisciplinary team of agricultural scientists and be willing to travel regularly to Bangladesh and Myanmar. Previous experience working in Bangladesh or Myanmar, and conducting research on a related topic would be an advantage.

**Terms of engagement:**

The project is for a duration of 4 years but contracts will be agreed on an annual basis. The Consultant is expected to work for about 25 days a year on this project. The project will start on 1 July 2017. An attractive professional fee will be paid based on the Center's consultant engagement policy. The consultant is not eligible for any allowances or benefits. Income tax and insurances will be the responsibility of the consultant. Travel expenses will be reimbursed based on actual expenses on the basis of travel claims supported by receipts.

**How to Apply:**

Applicants should submit an application letter explaining their suitability for and interest in the work along with a *curriculum vitae*, and date of availability to [human.resources@worldveg.org](mailto:human.resources@worldveg.org) before **30 May 2017**.