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 conducts research and development programs that contribute to realize the potential of vegetables for healthier lives and more resilient livelihoods. For more information please visit our website: worldveg.org

WorldVeg holds the world’s largest collection of vegetable genetic resources in the public domain. The Center’s vegetable breeding programs in Africa and Asia turn these resources into improved breeding lines and work with the public and private sector to develop and scale new vegetable varieties for the benefit of smallholder farmers and consumers in lower income countries. The Center also develops and promotes safer and more sustainable production and postharvest practices to make vegetable value chains more efficient with the ultimate aim of making vegetables more available, affordable and accessible.

WorldVeg seeks to employ an Agricultural Economist to strengthen the ability of the Center to provide evidence-based solutions for exploiting the nutritional and economic power of vegetables in lower-income countries in sub-Saharan Africa. The incumbent will be based at the Center’s regional office for West and Central Africa – Coastal and Humid Regions in Cotonou, Benin. The work will focus on Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Ghana, Mali and Nigeria. Examples of new and ongoing project work include an assessment of vegetable seed systems, the promotion of small vegetable business development, impact assessment of interventions aimed at increasing vegetable production and consumption, food systems research bridging agriculture and nutrition and the implementation of sound M&E systems across projects. She/he will report to the Flagship Program Leader for Enabling Impact.

Key job responsibilities:
1. Develop and implement mobile project monitoring tools to track project implementation and the adoption of innovations of projects across the region. In addition, train WorldVeg staff and partners in use of mobile data collection tools.
2. Design and implement ex-post impact evaluations of the Center’s technologies and interventions using scientifically rigorous methods of impact evaluation, including randomized controlled trials.
3. Contribute to the design and implementation of projects aimed at improving the functioning of vegetable value chains and empowerment of women, youth and other disadvantaged groups.
4. Conduct quantitative and qualitative studies to identify opportunities and constraints to technology adoption (particularly including vegetable seed) and food systems change.
5. Contribute to the design of sound scaling methods for technologies and interventions by instituting a continuous process of reflection and learning and ensuring that lessons learned are documented and shared.
6. Publish research in peer-reviewed journals.
7. Contribute to, and occasionally lead, the writing of grant proposals.
8. Provide guidance to colleagues on issues of agricultural marketing, impact evaluation, gender, intervention designs and scaling and help build the capacity of partners in these areas.
9. Perform any other duties as required by the needs of the Center.

The Person: Candidates must have a PhD degree in Agricultural Economics, Development Economics, Development Studies or a related discipline with a strong focus on applied research and at least 3 years of postdoctoral work experience. The candidate needs to have experience in conducting farm household surveys and in the use of econometrics to analyze such data. Skills in qualitative research methods will be an important advantage. She/he must have strong communication skills in spoken and written English and French. The candidate must be able to work with multidisciplinary teams in a multicultural and multinational environment. The position requires some travel to project sites in Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Ghana, Mali and Nigeria.

The Reward: This is an Internationally Recruited Staff (IRS) position with competitive pay and benefits. The appointment is for three years, renewable after performance review and the availability of resources. The position will be available on 1 September 2020.

How to Apply: Applicants should submit a letter of application explaining their suitability for and interest in the position along with a curriculum vitae, a recent passport size photograph, names and addresses (including telephone/fax/e-mail) of three referees, and date of availability to human.resources@worldveg.org before 20 July 2020. Please mention the position title in the subject line.