



**World Vegetable Center**

Job Announcement

**Postdoctoral Scientist –  
Agroecology & Soil Health**

**Background**

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](http://worldveg.org)

The Center is in the midst of modernizing its research infrastructure and evolving into an 'Open Science Center', which will enable strengthened collaboration with advanced research institutions and universities. As part of this development, the Center has an ambitious plan to advance research and development of agroecological approaches and regenerative agriculture for more sustainable and resilient vegetable production systems.

WorldVeg seeks a **Postdoctoral Scientist** – Agroecology & Soil Health to support the research and development of agroecological approaches and regenerative agricultural practices for better soil health and low carbon production of more nutritious vegetables and legumes. The major focus of this position will be on research of regenerative practices and integrated nutrient management to increase carbon sequestration, reduce soil greenhouse gas emissions, and enhance crop nutritional quality. However, the incumbent may participate in broader agroecological research and development activities.

This is an internationally recruited position based in the Agronomy/Agroecology Research Group within the Safe and Sustainable Value Chains Flagship at WorldVeg's headquarters in Shanhua, Tainan, Taiwan.

**Key job responsibilities**

- Provide scientific and analytical support for the implementation of field and greenhouse agricultural experiments focusing on crop production and soil management.
- Collect, analyze and interpret data from field experiments, and contribute to the development of reports, presentations and high-quality scientific research papers.
- Review literature, extract and analyze data and generate drafts of review papers.
- Collect and prepare soil samples for laboratory analysis (this may require basic laboratory skills).
- Collaborate with and supervise national and international students.
- Keep up to date with new knowledge and partners working on agroecology, regenerative agriculture, soil health, vegetable production and international agricultural development.
- Provide training in areas of vegetable production and soil management to local partners, which may involve traveling to countries in Asia and Africa.
- Perform any other duties as required by the needs of the Supervisor and Center.

**Qualifications and experience**

- Experiences with conducting agricultural field experiments related to some of the following areas: soil health, soil management, fertilization, agronomic fortification, bio-fertilizers, soil-microbiome-plant interactions, climate-change, crop production and diversification.

- Research skills for assessing some of the following parameters: soil nutrient cycling, soil biodiversity and microbiome, arbuscular mycorrhizal fungi, biological N fixation, crop root system, crop nutrient uptake and proximate composition, and carbon sequestration/greenhouse gas emissions.
- A completed PhD in soil science, plant & soil science, agronomy, agroecology or related agricultural science fields.
- Basic laboratory skills related to soils or agronomy for assessing soil/plant samples (for example, skills in using ICP OES or skills in the extraction of microbial DNA from soil samples would be a plus).
- A good understanding of soil health, crop nutrition, agroecology, diversification, cropping systems.
- A system thinking and understanding of cropping practices and smallholder farming systems.
- Proficiency in statistical software use (e.g., R, STATA, SPSS, etc.). Experience with bioinformatics would be a plus.
- Experience with modeling tools for predicting nutrient dynamics, agricultural systems or greenhouse gas emissions would be a plus (e.g., DNDC, APSIM, DSSAT, DAISY, etc.).
- Track record of publication in peer-reviewed journals.
- Excellent English language skills.

#### The reward

This is an Internationally Recruited Staff (IRS) position with competitive pay and benefits. The postdoc appointment is for a fixed term appointment of 3 years.

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

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| <i>1. Dedication to Innovation and Knowledge Sharing</i> | Supports the conduct of world-class science, respects ethical standards, and is committed to sharing results in a transparent manner. |
| <i>2. Commitment to Impact</i>                           | Aspires to achieve positive and lasting impact contributing to Sustainable Development Goals.   |
| <i>3. Commitment to Partnerships</i>                     | Believes in the value of partnerships to advance research for development.  |
| <i>4. Respect for People</i>                             | Respect the diversity of gender, culture, ethnic origin, religion, age, beliefs, and views.   |
| <i>5. 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, 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](mailto:human.resources@worldveg.org) before July 1, 2024. Applications should be submitted in English and as a single PDF file. Please mention the position title in the subject line.