Position Announcement

Associate Scientist - Agricultural Economist
Hyderabad, India

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 realizing 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 public vegetable germplasm collection and performs breeding programs in different parts of the world with strong connections with the public and private seed sectors. The WorldVeg breeding team develops improved cultivars with tolerance to biotic and abiotic stresses, enhanced shelf life, improved nutrient content, and quality adapted to subtropical and tropical environments. The Center is modernizing its research infrastructure and evolving into ‘Open Science Center’, collaborating with advanced research institutions, universities, and private seed companies.

WorldVeg seeks applications for the post of Associate Scientist - Agricultural Economist to strengthen the ability of the World Vegetable Center to provide evidence-based solutions for making vegetables more available, affordable and accessible in lower-income countries. The incumbent will be based at the Center’s regional office for South Asia in Hyderabad, India. This is a position open for Indian nationals only. The person will contribute to projects mostly in South Asia. She/he will report to the Flagship Program Leader for Enabling Impact and will work closely with the research team at WorldVeg regional headquarters in Hyderabad, India.

Responsibilities

- Lead efforts to integrate monitoring and evaluation in the design of projects/programs. This includes the use of mobile project monitoring tools to track project implementation and the adoption of innovations.
- Conduct quantitative and qualitative studies to evaluate the impact of policies and interventions in the vegetable sector with a particular focus on nutrition outcomes.
- Conduct scoping studies and systematic reviews of vegetable interventions from seed to policy interventions.
- Lead capacity strengthening efforts aimed at raising the profile of vegetables on policy agendas.
- Lead efforts to integrate monitoring and evaluation in the design of projects/programs.
- Publish research results in peer-reviewed journals and conference proceedings.
- Provide guidance to colleagues and partners on issues of impact evaluation, vegetable value chains and nutritional impact of vegetable interventions.
- Perform any other duties as required by the needs of the Center and the Supervisor.

Qualifications and Experience

The ideal candidate will have most, if not all, of the following skills, knowledge, experience, and personal characteristics:

- A recent PhD degree in Agricultural Economics, Development Economics, Development Studies, Agricultural Sciences or a related discipline with a strong focus on applied research.
- At least 2 years of postdoctoral experience
- Experience conducting and analyzing farm household surveys.
- Skills in qualitative research methods will be an advantage.
- Strong communication skills in spoken and written English. Proficiency in one or more Indian languages will be an advantage.
- Able to work with multidisciplinary teams in a multicultural and multinational environment.
- Willingness to travel extensively.

The Reward: The initial appointment is for three years and may be extended depending on requirement, funding availability, and performance of the incumbent. An attractive compensation and benefits will be offered to the right candidate.
The candidate we hire will embody WorldVeg’s Five Core Values:

1. Dedication to Innovation and Knowledge Sharing  
   Supports the conduct of world-class science, respects ethical standards, and is committed to sharing results in a transparent manner.

2. Commitment to Impact  
   Aspires to achieve positive, tangible, and lasting impact contributing to Sustainable Development Goals.

3. Commitment to Partnerships  
   Believes in the value of partnerships to advance research for development.

4. Respect for People  
   Respect the diversity of gender, culture, ethnic origin, religion, age, beliefs, and views.

5. Respect for the Environment  
   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/email) of three referees, and date of availability to hrsca@worldveg.org. The position will remain open until it is filled. Applications will be reviewed starting 25 January, 2024. Please mention the position title in the subject line.

Qualified female candidates are strongly encouraged to apply.