
ICARDA, SENIOR BIOMETRICIAN

International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) Aleppo, Syria
VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

SENIOR BIOMETRICIAN

Computer and Biometrics Services Unit

The Organization ICARDA is a non-profit international agricultural research center in a worldwide consortium of 15 centers, supported by the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR). The CGIAR is co-sponsored by the World Bank, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). With a staff of over 400 scientists and support personnel, representing more than 45 nationalities, ICARDA addresses two key areas of agricultural research: germplasm improvement (cereals and legumes) and natural resource management. The Center has a global mandate for barley, lentil and faba bean improvement, and a regional mandate for the improvement of wheat, chickpea and forage and pasture legumes. A major emphasis is placed on the conservation and management of land and water, and improved productivity of small ruminants in integrated farming systems in dry areas. The Center's research and training programs are implemented in partnership with national programs and, in most cases, with other CGIAR centers as well as advanced research institutes in both developing and industrialized countries.

The Position ICARDA has an immediate vacancy for the position of a Senior Biometrician. The Senior Biometrician reports directly to the Head, Computer and Biometrics Services Unit. The principal duty of the Senior Biometrician is to work closely with the Center's scientists to assist them in the design and analysis of their experiments and surveys, as well as making important contribution to training of National Agricultural Research Systems (NARS) scientists. The incumbent is expected to make significant contribution to scientific publications and to the statistical robustness of scientists' publications.

Duties and Responsibilities

- Assists ICARDA scientists in the planning, design, analysis and interpretation of results of a broad range of agricultural field and field related trials and surveys
- Develops an effective biometrics and computing biometrics services through the implementation of advanced applied statistical techniques
- Coordinates for continuously improving biometrics software resources, testing and evaluating new software and recommending new acquisitions of software packages
- Provides support on Bioinformatics to scientists
- Plans and conducts biometrics training programmers for both ICARDA's scientists and scientists from the national agricultural research programmers
- Participates in the preparation of operational and strategic plans of the CBSU
- Reviews statistically scientific manuscripts
- Supervises the activities of the Scientific Software Engineer

- Assists the CBSU Head in other tasks as requested

Qualifications and Experience:

- Earned PhD degree in statistics;
- Broad training in biometrics and statistical computing
- Minimum of 10 years experience in biometrics and statistical computer software, with at least three years of experience in agricultural biometrics
- Excellent knowledge of statistical software
- Excellent command of English

Terms of Appointment

The appointment will be for an initial period of 2 years, renewable thereafter on an annual basis. The salary is paid in US dollars. Benefits include housing allowance, paid home leave travel, a pension scheme, life and health insurance package, vehicle for business and personal use, and free enrollment for dependent children in the ICARDA-administered International School (KG-Grade 12).

Living in Syria

ICARDA's headquarters is situated 30 km south of Aleppo, Syria's second largest city. In addition to the internationally-accredited school, ICARDA runs a sports and social club for the staff. Syria has many historical and archaeological sites, some a short drive from Aleppo. There are four distinct seasons and the terrain varies from desert to mountains to fertile fruit orchards. Major international airlines fly into Damascus and Aleppo.

Application

Qualified applicants are invited to send:

- 1) Cover letter of interest (no more than 2 pages) highlighting the candidate's experience against the criteria listed under Qualifications and Competencies, including salary expectations and noting where the candidate saw the advertisement.
 - 2) Curriculum vitae, with a recent photo
 - 3) Names, addresses, fax numbers and e-mail addresses of three professional referees (they will not be contacted without the candidate's permission),
- to:

Personnel Services

ICARDA, P.O. Box 5466, Aleppo, Syria

Telephone: (963-21) 2213477, 2225112, or 2225012

Fax: (963-21) 2213490, 2225105, or 5744622

E-mail: ICARDA-JOBS@CGIAR.ORG

Website: <http://www.icarda.cgiar.org>

(If sending by e-mail, please do not include graphics or other large file attachments.)

REFERENCE: quote INT-P/8023/08 on the application *(or in the subject line if applying by e-mail)*.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Applications must be received by **5 September 2008**

ICARDA is an equal opportunity employer, and encourages applications from women.