



Africa Rice Center (WARDA)

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

POLICY ECONOMIST

IRS 03/RD/PL2/07

Africa Rice Center seeks a highly qualified person to join its staff as the Policy Economist at its current Headquarters in Cotonou, Benin Republic, West Africa.

ABOUT THE AFRICA RICE CENTER: The Africa Rice Center is an intergovernmental organization of 17 member countries in West and Central Africa, conducting research on improving the sustainable productivity of rice-based systems in Africa and supporting National Agricultural Research Systems (NARS) through collaborative research and training. As one of the 15 International Agricultural Research Centres supported by the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR), the Africa Rice Center adheres to the CGIAR standards of excellence in scientific research and management. The Center's recent breakthrough in the development of NERICA rice offers new hope for Africa's poor rice farmers and challenging research opportunities.

RESPONSIBILITIES: The Policy Economist will take the lead in policy research and support activities aimed at providing a better understanding of price and market dynamics. Particular emphasis will be placed on the effects of trade and macroeconomic policies and on factors enhancing the competitiveness of domestic rice production, generating tools for national agricultural policy analysis, and contributing to the improvement of policy analysis capacities in national programs and within the Africa Rice Center.

S/he is expected to develop research project proposals, annual workplans and budgets; coordinate the implementation of policy-oriented research including the allocation of resources; prepare presentations and publications of research results; contribute to WARDA's resource mobilization efforts; participate as appropriate in the design, the implementation and the assessment of other relevant Africa Rice Center projects; archive data from research projects and make them available within the Center and beyond; supervise a regional rice statistics database; support the conduct of economic analyses and related policy research by national researchers and policy analysts in West Africa through collaboration, networking, provision of technical assistance and training; and undertake any other duties as required.

The Policy Economist will be a key member of Africa Rice Center's Program 2: Rice Policy & Development, and will work closely with other scientists within the Center, national agricultural research systems (NARS), universities and advanced research institutions in sub-Saharan Africa.

REQUIREMENTS: Applicants should have a PhD in agricultural economics with demonstrated capacity in agricultural policy analysis, strong modelling and analytical skills; 5-10 years post-doctoral research experience in policy economics research or other relevant areas, preferably in a non-profit, international environment; demonstrated ability to work in a multi-disciplinary, multi-cultural research environment; and strong communication skills in English or French, with working knowledge of the other. Prior experience with rice or cereals in Africa, computer literacy, and familiarity with the CGIAR would be an advantage.

BENEFITS AND TENURE: This is an internationally recruited staff (IRS) position at the Principal Staff (PS) level. An internationally competitive salary and benefits package will be provided. The contract is for an initial period of two years, renewable subject to performance.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE: Send a letter of application and interest along with a detailed CV/Resume, including the names and addresses (including telephone and fax numbers and e-mail addresses) of three referees to:

HRO-Africa Rice Center (WARDA)
WARDA/ADRAO
01 B.P. 2031 Cotonou
Fax: +229-21350556
E-mail: WARDA-HR@CGIAR.ORG

Please quote the position announcement number in your letter of application. Applications will be considered until 28 February 2007, or until the position is filled.

The Africa Rice Center believes that diversity in its staff promotes excellence in its operations, and encourages applications from women and nationals of developing countries.