

## JOB OPPORTUNITY

### POSITION DESCRIPTION FOR RESEARCH ASSOCIATE CIALCA BURUNDI

**Background:** The International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) invites applications for the nationally recruited position of **Research Associate** to operate under the Consortium for Improving Agriculture-based Livelihoods in Central Africa (CIALCA - [www.cialca.org](http://www.cialca.org)).

The Research Associate implements and executes/supervises field activities, collects scientific data and reports to the supervisors. He/she will work closely with other CIALCA staff in Burundi. The perfect candidate will have a background in a quantitative or technical field, will have experience working with field data collection, data analysis, training and supervision of field data collectors. You are focused on results, you are ambitious, and you have demonstrated success in supporting timely and effective scientific research implementation, data collection and reporting. This position is based full time in our office in Bujumbura, Burundi and reports to the CIALCA Systems Agronomist and the IITA Burundi Country Representative. It is of 02 years.

The International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) is a not-for-profit institution that generates agricultural innovations to meet Africa's most pressing challenges of hunger, malnutrition, poverty, and natural resource degradation. Working with various partners across sub-Saharan Africa, we improve livelihoods, enhance food and nutrition security, increase employment, and preserve natural resource integrity. IITA is a member of CGIAR, a global agriculture research partnership for a food secure future. Please visit <http://www.iita.org> for more information on IITA.

#### **Duties and Responsibilities:**

##### **1. Research assistance to CIALCA**

- Lead effective data collection using ODK-surveys and tablets, interviews, workshops, participatory observation and other methods;
- Assist CIALCA scientists and staff in basic data cleaning and analysis;
- Support the implementation and quality control of multi-locational experiments (agronomy, nutrition, economic, social);
- Facilitate the development, testing and use of ICT-based tools with extension providers and farmers.

##### **2. Support training and capacity development**

- Lead training and supervision of data collectors and enumerators;
- Execute training of agricultural extension providers and/ or farmers in the use of ICT and smart-phone based tools;
- Ongoing facilitation and follow up with agricultural extension providers and/ or lead farmers engaged in the program

##### **3. Reporting and administration backstopping:**

- Ensure timely and effective administrative and project technical reporting.
- Liaise with IITA staff on administrative issues related to the projects.

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**Criteria for Success:**

- Must be able to work independently with minimal supervision, but also participate as a team member in accomplishment of duties.
- High level analytical thinking capacity.
- Understanding of and experience in working in banana- and cassava-based farming systems.
- Possess excellent interpersonal and communication skills, good judgment and a high level of respect for confidentiality.
- Works proactively and takes initiative and has an eye for detail and perfection.
- Is willing to learn and develop as part of the IITA team in Burundi.
- Ability to work in a multi-cultural environment.
- Is able to communicate fluently in Kirundi, French and English both orally and in writing.
- Commitment to IITA's mission and core values.
- Driver's license for car or motorbike is an advantage.

**Requirements:**

- MSc-degree in Agricultural Science, Agronomy, Economics or other relevant study with proven data collection and reporting skills.
- At least 2 years of relevant work experience with an (international) organization engaged in agricultural research.
- High level of computer and ICT skills (MS Office Word and Excel) and ability to learn new applications quickly.
- Candidates have proven experience in digital data collection (e.g. using ODK tablet-based surveys) and developing and testing mobile (smart) phone applications with extension officers and farmers.
- Experience in training and supervising field enumerators, and ensuring quality data collection.

For applications (only electronic), please send your cover letter, CV and Diploma & Certificates if any. The cover letter and CV should clearly and convincingly respond to expected (i) duties and responsibilities, (ii) criteria for success, and (iii) requirements. The cover letter should also express the motivation of the candidate for the position, as well as the added value that the candidate will bring to the CIALCA team. Candidates should provide the names and contact details of 3 referees, including the supervisor of their current/last employment.

For further information please contact to Dr Kokou Kintche ([k.kintche@cgiar.org](mailto:k.kintche@cgiar.org)) with cc to [IITA-Burundi@cgiar.org](mailto:IITA-Burundi@cgiar.org) . Deadline for applications is May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2018 at Midnight.

Selected candidates will have to do a written test and an oral interview.

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted (June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018).

Bujumbura, May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018

IITA Station Administration.