Post-doctoral Scientist

The International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT; www.ciat.cgiar.org) works to increase prosperity and improve human nutrition in the tropics through research based solutions in agriculture and environment. CIAT is a member of the CGIAR Consortium (www.cgiar.org), a global partnership that unites organizations engaged in research for a food secure future. Headquartered near Cali, Colombia, CIAT has regional offices in Vietnam (Asia) and Kenya (Africa), with staff posted in other countries as well.

To meet growing demands for research-for-development solutions at a greater scale and within a period that is commensurate with rapidly changing global challenges, The International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT) and Bioversity International (Bioversity) are establishing an Alliance. Bioversity is a global research-for-development organization whose vision is that agricultural biodiversity nourishes people and sustains the planet. Bioversity delivers scientific evidence, management practices and policy options to use and safeguard agricultural and tree biodiversity to attain sustainable global food and nutrition security. Both organizations are members of the CGIAR System Organization.

The Position

CIAT is offering a postdoctoral researcher position for a motivated scientist working on data needs for assessing progress on national commitments made in the Paris Agreement. The objective of the research is to improve national reporting, explore new data sources and increase transparency accuracy, completeness, consistency and comparability between national reports and between GHG inventories and scientific assessments towards the global stocktake. The successful candidate will conduct research on nationally determined contributions; measurement, reporting and verification procedures; and traditional and emerging data sources to support national reporting. Work with leading experts in the field through a collaborative project will be part of the job.

This position will be located in CIAT’s headquarters in Palmira, Colombia.
Responsibilities:

• Examine the information needed to track progress towards different types of NDCs and explore current experiences and the associated challenges relevant to reporting this information. Identify issues and options for how this information could be reviewed and how this review could facilitate reporting improvements.

• Identify key linkages between Articles 4, 6 and 13 of the Paris Agreement related to reporting and reviewing information to track progress and ensure an internally and internationally consistent progress tracking system.

• Reconcile forest and AFOLU sinks and sources across data sources and connect with emissions hotspot data and new data sources. This work would be based on the new 2019 IPCC guidance and results of the assessment in the IPCC Special Report on Lands and advance the analysis to include novel remote sensing-based approaches (as third pillar to vegetation models and GHG inventories) and better reconcile different data sources.

Requirements and Qualifications

• PhD in forestry, soils, agriculture or a related field

• Strong background on land-use change, climate change policy, carbon accounting, and greenhouse gas inventory

• Knowledge in the areas of carbon modelling and dynamic global vegetation models is a plus

• International experience in agricultural research and development would be considered a plus.

• A track record of peer-reviewed publications in related topics is expected.

• A demonstrated ability to elaborate high quality publications meeting international standards.

• Full English language communication skills, both written and oral.

Terms of employment

This internationally recruited position will be based at CIAT’s headquarters located in Palmira, Colombia, reporting directly to Dr. Louis Verchot, who will supervise the research at CIAT and the project will be implemented in close collaboration with Wageningen University (Prof. M. Herold and Dr. Niki de Sy). The initial contract will be for up to two (2) years, subject to a probation period of six (6) months, and is renewable depending on performance and availability of resources.

CIAT offers a multicultural, collegial research environment with competitive salary and excellent benefits. CIAT is an equal opportunity employer, and strives for staff diversity in gender and nationality.
Applications
Applicants are invited to send a cover letter illustrating their suitability for the above position against the qualifications, competencies, skills together with a detailed curriculum vitae, including names and addresses of three referees knowledgeable about the candidate’s professional qualifications and work experience. All correspondence should be addressed to the CIAT Human Resources Office, to Tomás Solís (t.solis@cgiar.org) and should clearly indicate “Application: Post-doctoral Scientist”.

Closing date for applications: 01/10/2020
Until a suitable candidate is identified.
We invite you to learn more about us at: http://www.ciat.cgiar.org