

Maize Breeder in South Asia - Post-Doctoral Fellow or Associate Scientist

The International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT) is looking for an innovative, results-oriented scientist with excellent skills in maize breeding, field-based phenotyping and networking to support the development and deployment of high-yielding and stress-tolerant maize hybrids in South Asia. The scientist will work as a member of the **CIMMYT Global Maize Program** (CIMMYT-GMP), and will play a key role to fulfill CIMMYT's mandate in a large multi-disciplinary and multi-institutional team. As the India based member of CIMMYT-GMP, the selected scientist will also work closely with CIMMYT's research teams in the region, as well as partners in seed companies, advanced research institutes, and national research programs to expand the network of partnerships. Additional responsibilities will include training of private and public partners in all activities related to maize breeding.

Primary responsibilities include:

- Supporting and strengthening maize breeding and product deployment activities in South Asia.
- Evaluating maize hybrids for prioritized abiotic (especially drought and heat) and biotic (common diseases) stresses along with other CIMMYT scientists and partners in the region.
- Assisting in establishing and integrating doubled haploid (DH) technology in CIMMYT's Asia based breeding programs.
- Technical backstopping and capacity strengthening of private seed and national partners on use of innovative approaches, novel tools and methodologies in developing maize hybrids and in evaluating maize hybrids in the framework of CIMMYT's overall project agenda.
- Ensuring effective networking, collaboration and communication with seed partners in Asia.
- Contributing to the visibility of CIMMYT's research, partnerships and impacts.

We are seeking candidates with the following qualifications:

- Ph.D. in Plant Sciences with specialization in plant breeding or closely related subject. Experience in maize breeding is preferable.
- Applied knowledge of experimental design, management of field trials, field breeding operations, and data analysis.
- Strong aptitude for field-based research, especially for development and testing of maize hybrids.
- Practical skills in statistics (SAS, R, or other statistical software) and computation (MS Excel and other software).
- Experience in managing large databases of field trials is preferred.
- Track record in scientific refereed publications
- Proficiency in spoken and written English.
- Strong self-motivation and innovative skills, coupled with interest in international agricultural research and development.
- Demonstrated ability to work collegially and collaboratively in diverse, multicultural partnerships and good communications skills.

The International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center, known by its Spanish acronym, CIMMYT® (www.cimmyt.org), is a not-for-profit research and training organization with partners in over 100 countries. The center works to sustainably increase the productivity of maize and wheat systems and thus ensure global food security and reduce poverty. The center's outputs and services include improved maize and wheat varieties and cropping systems, the conservation of maize and wheat genetic resources, and capacity building. CIMMYT belongs to and is funded by the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) (www.cgiar.org) and also receives support from national governments, foundations, development banks, and other public and private agencies.

CIMMYT has had enormous impact in the developing world. It is the center of excellence for work on two of the three most important food crops in the developing world. Its most famous employee, Dr. Norman Borlaug, is credited by many with saving more lives than any other individual in the history of the world. Borlaug's work dramatically increased yields of wheat in the Indo-Gangetic plains in the 1960s and 1970s, staving off starvation for hundreds of millions. For this work, Borlaug received the Nobel Prize in 1970. Scores of other CIMMYT efforts have saved or enriched millions of lives, from releasing disease-resistant varieties and varieties resistant to drought and heat and soil deficiencies, to dispersing techniques to reduce farmer costs and post-harvest losses. In developing countries, wheat varieties developed by CIMMYT and its partners cover 75% of the area planted to modern wheat varieties.

The position will be based in India but will involve travel to other CIMMYT field sites in South Asia on a regular basis. The position is initially available for three years and may lead to a career path position. CIMMYT offers an attractive remuneration package paid in US dollars, with a range of benefits including housing allowance, life and health insurance, education allowance (to Grade 12), home leave, and relocation shipping assistance.

CIMMYT is an equal-opportunity employer and strives for staff diversity in gender and nationality.

[Apply online](#) no later than April 30th, 2012.

At www.cimmyt.org, click on "About us – Job Opportunities- Position" -2011-11 Please complete the online application, including your cover letter, competencies and experience for the position, and a detailed CV/resume.

For further information, contact **Dr. B.M. Prasanna**, Director, Global Maize Program b.m.prasanna@cgiar.org or the Human Resources Office, jobs-cimmyt@cgiar.org.

Please note that only short-listed candidates will be contacted.