

Maize Breeding Product Pipeline Coordinator for Africa

The International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT) is looking for an innovative, results-oriented and experienced scientist with excellent skills in maize breeding and product management, for effectively linking product development and delivery of high-yielding, stress-tolerant cultivars for sub-Saharan Africa. The selected scientist will be responsible for coordinating the product development pipeline of CIMMYT Global Maize Program (GMP) in Africa. As a Nairobi-based member of the CIMMYT-GMP, the scientist will work closely with partners in national agricultural research systems (NARS), advanced research institutions, seed companies worldwide, to improve the livelihoods of smallholder farmers, especially in sub-Saharan Africa, who depend on maize for livelihoods and food security.

Primary responsibilities include:

- Lead the breeding activities of Drought Tolerant Maize for Africa (DTMA) Project, and implementation of Improved Maize for African Soils (IMAS) Project.
- Ensure coordination among breeding projects in Africa for optimization of the breeding operations, exchange of elite germplasm among the regions, and orientation of breeding pipeline towards producing commercially viable inbred lines and hybrids.
- Contribute to and support innovative maize breeding, including effective deployment of proven technologies (e.g., doubled haploids (DH), precision phenotyping, high-throughput genotyping, and bioinformatics), in CIMMYT's breeding programs, especially in Africa.
- Analyze and monitor the effectiveness of the CIMMYT maize breeding pipeline in sub-Saharan Africa through retrospective data analyses and monitoring of genetic gains.
- Ensure that CIMMYT's maize stress tolerance donors and elite breeding materials are clearly documented and available to partners.
- Actively participate in collaborative maize breeding, research and capacity building activities in the framework of CIMMYT's overall project agenda.
- Support the acquisition of funding for the maize breeding program through grant proposal development.
- Technical backstopping and capacity strengthening of the national partners in maize research-for-development.
- Contribute to the visibility of CIMMYT's research, partnerships and impacts.

We are seeking candidates with the following qualifications:

- Ph.D. in Plant breeding or closely related field, with strong training in quantitative genetics and statistics.
- At least 7 years of post-PhD experience, including direct experience as a line/hybrid development breeder.
- Demonstrated experience in efficient project management/leadership in plant breeding, along with team-building skills.
- Willingness to travel extensively in support of CIMMYT's regional breeding operations.
- Strong interest in and commitment to international agricultural research and development.
- Demonstrated ability to publish in refereed, high-impact scientific journals.
- Proficiency in spoken and written English.
- Demonstrated ability to work collegially and collaboratively in diverse, multicultural partnerships.

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.

The position will be based in Nairobi, Kenya, but will involve frequent travel to other field phenotyping sites in eastern and southern Africa. 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 July 30th, 2012.

At www.cimmyt.org, click on "About us – Job Opportunities- Position" - 2012-25, 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.