



Science Writer, Communication Unit (Ref: DDG-R4D/SW/CU/02/19)

Background: The International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) invites applications for the internationally recruited position of **Science Writer**.

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.

The Communication Unit is a strategic unit under the Research for Development directorate that covers corporate communication, publishing, data management, and knowledge management.

Position Responsibilities

- Conceptualize and develop ideas for communicating science and success stories to various audiences across multimedia platforms, including web, social media, and other online platforms.
- Write and produce science communication materials about research topics and projects, outputs, important and timely themes, or events in close collaboration with scientists and partners, other stakeholders, hub/station communicators, and IITA communication community of practice (COP).
- Provide science communication advice and training to members of the communication COP, media partners, and scientists at HQ and hubs, as needed.
- Assist in developing communication strategies/plans for hubs, projects, outputs, and/or events, and institutional communication products with the team of communication specialists.
- Work with IITA communication colleagues in the Communication Unit, hubs, and COP to communicate and promote IITA's visibility.
- Produce institutional communication products such as the annual report, slide presentations, newsletters, blogs, posters, and other collateral materials for different audiences.
- Develop infographics and other multimedia content for use in IITA communication campaigns, materials, and media outlets.
- Develop blogs and social media posts for Flickr, Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram, and other IITA social media platforms.
- Contribute to resource mobilization through participation (as a lead or team member) in the development of concept notes and proposals.
- Perform any other tasks assigned.

Educational Qualifications

The candidate should hold a BS or master's degree in communication, journalism, science (e.g. agricultural sciences, social sciences, political sciences, economics, etc.) or a relevant/related field.

Core Competencies:

- At least 5 years' experience in producing high-quality science communication materials across a range of mediums and in multimedia formats.
- Proven ability to translate complex scientific concepts and research into compelling and meaningful stories.
- Strong interest in science and agricultural development issues with the ability to grasp new material quickly.

- Demonstrated ability to write and edit English across multiple styles and formats at a very high level.
- Experience working with technical experts, preferably in a multicultural context.
- Experience in working in an international and/or regional organization.
- Experience working in developing countries an advantage.
- Ability to manage multiple projects and competing priorities.
- Self-motivated and resourceful.
- Dynamic, curious and creative.
- Good team player with excellent interpersonal skills, able to interact effectively and positively with people in a multicultural and multidisciplinary environment.
- Ability to work well under pressure and with short deadlines.
- Strong client service orientation.
- Fluency in English. Other languages an advantage.

Duty Station: Ibadan, Nigeria.

General information: The contract will be for an initial period of three years. IITA offers internationally competitive remuneration package paid in U.S. Dollars.

Applications: Applications must include covering letter which should address how the candidate's background/experience relates to the specific duties of the position applied for, curriculum vitae, names and addresses of three professional referees (which **must** include either the Head of the applicant's current or previous organization or applicant's direct Supervisor/Superior at his/her present or former place of work). The application should be addressed to the Head, Human Resources Service. Please complete our online application form using this link: <http://www.iita.org/careers>. Note that candidates would be asked to provide samples of written outputs.

Closing Date: 2nd March 2019

IITA is an equal opportunity employer and particularly welcomes applications from women candidates.

Please note that only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.