International Potato Center (CIP): CIP is a not-for-profit international agricultural research-for-development organization with a focus on potato, sweetpotato, and Andean roots and tubers. Its vision is roots and tubers improving the lives of the poor. CIP is dedicated to achieving food security, improved well-being, and gender equity for poor people in root and tuber farming and food systems of the developing world. CIP works with partners to contribute high quality science, technology, and capacity strengthening for sustainable science-based solutions. CIP is headquartered in Lima, Peru, with staff and activities in over 30 locations across Asia, Africa, and Latin America. CIP is a member of the CGIAR Consortium, a network of 15 Research Centers and 16 Research Programs mostly located in the developing world and supported by more than 50 donor members.

The International Institute of Tropical Agriculture on behalf of CIP seeks suitable Nigerian for the position below at the CIP project location in Kano / Abuja. As the Agronomy and Post-harvest specialist, you will be responsible for popularizing improved varieties amongst farmers and enhancing utilization of OFSP in consumers towards meeting the production, processing and nutritional outcomes of the project. You will report to the Development and Delivery Of Biofortified Crops At Scale Program (DDBIO) Country Coordinator for Nigeria.

DUTIES:

- Learn the project proposal to fully understand and internalize the entire project mission and be ready to contribute in a sustainable and cost-effective manner.
- Under the guidance of your supervisors develop a detailed work plan for yourself and diligently implement it to achieve the set goals and targets by identifying, enrolling, handholding and monitoring suitable project partners for various activities in the OFSP value chain
- As part of the team, identify, enroll, handhold, enable and monitor suitable partners for OFSP vine production of improved varieties.
- Plan and implement sustainable approaches for maintenance, production and distribution of OSFP clean planting materials of improved varieties.
- Plan, design and implement agricultural field activities that will contribute to improved production of OFSP roots in the targeted areas
• Appraise farm-level sweet potato production constraints; design and implement effective farmer-participatory demonstrations with extension officers to address these constraints
• Collect, process and analyze data from scientific and farmer participatory research experiments and write pertinent technical reports
• Maintain a local data base for agricultural field research studies from designated project intervention areas
• Participate in diagnostic and other relevant socio-economic studies as member of a multi-disciplinary project team
• Organize roots producers into contract root suppliers and link them to puree processing factories
• Contribute to training of extension officers, staff from participatory NGO partners, private enterprises and farmers in the project intervention districts in pertinent skills in sweet potato vine and root production and processing value chains
• Participate in identification and promotion of improved technologies for handling, storage and processing of sweet potato roots
• Establish and maintain good working relationships with government extension service, research stations, NGO partners, and farmer groups
• Be entrepreneurial and proactive in identifying new opportunities, partners and strategies towards enhancing the overall project deliverables towards meeting the organization and donor expectations
• Work effectively in the project team to develop a collegial, mutually supportive and high-performance work atmosphere
• Proactively always take responsibility to ensure safety of humans and property while implementing the project activities in timely manner in keeping with the budget allocated
• Carry out any other duties as assigned by the Country Team Leader or senior members of the organizations.

QUALIFICATION:
MSc in Agronomy, Crop Production or related discipline with minimum of five (5) years’ related experience in a related role in an agricultural research organization or equivalent experience is desired.

COMPETENCIES:

• Good knowledge, skills, and abilities to drive agro-ecological resilience, market development, improved nutrition, gender equity, and social and behavioral change.
• Be honest, hardworking and have ability to work under pressure.

REMUNERATION:
We offer highly competitive salary with equally attractive benefits and excellent working conditions in a pleasant campus environment.

METHOD OF APPLICATION:
Interested applicants should complete the online application attaching detailed cover letter and curriculum vitae saved with their names in Microsoft word format to IITA website: http://jobs.iita.org/erecruit no later than Two Weeks from the date of this publication. The application must include the names and e-mail addresses of three professional referees.
which must include the applicant’s current or previous direct Supervisor, professional colleague and evidence of current remuneration package.

*IITA is an equal opportunity employer and is committed to building a diverse workforce. While all applications will be acknowledged, please note that only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.*