Sudan Aflasafe Project Management Specialist (Ref. No: DDG-R4D/SA/PMS/11/20)

Background: The International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) invites applications for the internationally recruited position of Sudan Aflasafe Project Management Specialist.

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.

Position Responsibilities
S/he will be the key focal point in Sudan for assisting the Project Manager to:

- Lead research and disseminate activities related to aflatoxin prevalence and biocontrol in Sudanese crops in consultation and collaboration with IITA scientists and partners in Sudan.
- Implement and coordinate the project on Aflatoxin Mitigation in Sudan funded by the French Development Agency.
- Report on project progress per reporting requirements and communicating constraints in a timely manner.
- Ensure efficient planning and timely delivery of activity outputs and milestones as per project work plan.
- Organize all necessary project meetings.
- Liaise with all project partners and other stakeholders for fostering effective linkages and close collaboration.

Specific responsibilities will include

- Conducting assessments relevant to determination of the prevalence and severity of aflatoxins in Sudan.
- Assisting in identifying atoxigenic strains for biocontrol development in Sudan.
- Evaluating the efficacy of these biocontrol strains on groundnut, sorghum, maize, sesame, and cotton in partnership with farmers, project partners and other stakeholders in Sudan.
- Pursuing Aflasafe product registration in Sudan and advise on IP management and contribute to its commercialization and market development thereafter.
- Conducting field and laboratory activities to continue to demonstrate the efficacy of biocontrol on a product marketing setting in partnership with the private sector.
- Participating in the recruitment and training of Sudanese students.
- Coordinating the establishment of, and subsequently managing an aflatoxin biocontrol research laboratory and a research-scale manufacturing facility in partnership with public and private project partners.
- Preparing and supervising annual work plan and budgets for the project, and monitoring implementation of activities of partners and sub-grantees in Sudan.
- Liaise with project partners, including students, for meeting their annual targets and deliverables.
• Raising awareness on aflatoxin contamination and engaging in advocacy for mycotoxin management, and training stakeholders in integrated management options.
• Organize project advisory board meetings and all other stakeholder meetings.
• Fostering partnerships with national agriculture research and extension systems, private sector enterprises, other related projects and advanced research institutes.
• Assisting in the supervision of MSc and PhD students, and locally recruited project staff.
• Streamlining activities with other aflatoxin-related or similar projects with all other countries in Africa where Aflasafe development is in progress or may begin in future.
• Preparing and submitting reports to the Project Manager in a timely manner to satisfy donor-reporting responsibilities.
• Preparing grant proposals for supporting research on aflatoxin biocontrol and other research on mycotoxins in Sudan.
• Assisting to publish and communicate research results in peer-reviewed journals, books, workshops and conferences.
• Perform any other job-related tasks specified by the Project Manager.

**Educational Qualifications**
The candidate should have a minimum of BSc degree in food science, plant pathology or food safety. MBA degree is an added advantage.

**Core Competencies**
- Relevant work experience in project management of at least 7 years, in an international, multicultural organization or company.
- Must be based in Sudan.
- Experience in food safety.
- Experience in working in a private sector organization.
- Proven experience in working at the interface of public and private sector.
- Experience in chemical and microbiological assessment of food safety parameters is desirable.
- Demonstrated ability to set up new laboratories and infrastructure.
- Experience in food safety analysis.
- Ability to manage and maintain good relationship with stakeholders in Sudan.
- Be a good team player.
- Ability to work under different conditions.
- Highly self-motivated, detail-oriented, and innovative.
- Have excellent interpersonal and communication skills, both written and oral.
- Ability to create and sustain a coalition of partners.
- Fluency in Arabic language is essential.

**Duty Station:** Khartoum, Sudan

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

Closing Date: 9th December 2020

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.