

**POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT**  
**Vegetable Breeders**  
**(Tanzania)**

AVRDC – The World Vegetable Center is a non-profit, autonomous international agricultural research center with headquarters in Taiwan and regional offices around the globe. AVRDC conducts research and development programs that contribute to improved incomes and diets in the developing world. AVRDC is seeking experienced vegetable breeders for its pan-African program on Vegetable Breeding and Seed Systems for Poverty Reduction in Africa, which will:

- establish four national units for vegetable breeding, breeding support, and seed production in four countries (Cameroon, Madagascar, Mali and Tanzania), as well as one unit in seed health and marketing
- build vegetable seed system capacity in those countries as well as in their neighboring countries
- network the national vegetable breeding programs, private African seed companies and vegetable seed supply systems in all countries
- promote increased and sustainable vegetable production, marketing and consumption in these countries

**Key Responsibilities**

The vegetable breeders will support the program's national breeding unit (NBU) in Tanzania to develop and release new vegetable varieties. With the country Liaison Officer and Project Manager, the vegetable breeders will prioritize crops and breeding objectives for each crop, and design efficient breeding strategies. Priority will be given to varietal development of tomato, chili pepper, sweet pepper, onion, cabbage, and locally important indigenous vegetables. Activities will include establishment of infrastructure, procurement of equipment and supplies, staff training, and design of plant breeding protocols.

The vegetable breeders will collaborate closely with staff of the NBU, AVRDC staff at the Regional Center for Africa in Tanzania, the Sub-Regional Office in Mali, and AVRDC headquarters. S/he will also develop cooperative linkages with contract seed producers, NARS regulatory personnel, and seed distribution channels. Frequent travel within the country and to neighboring countries to monitor program activities is expected.

**Qualifications and Experience**

- Postgraduate degree in horticulture, agriculture, plant breeding, or related discipline
- At least 5 years experience in applied plant breeding
- An understanding of African farming systems, and public and private sector seed systems, especially in developing countries
- Work experience in sub-Saharan Africa or developing countries
- Strong communication skills in spoken and written English.
- Working knowledge of French language
- Ability to perform effectively and efficiently in a multi-disciplinary and multi-cultural environment

**Terms of Appointment:** The incumbent will be based in Tanzania. The initial appointment is for two years with possibility of annual re-appointments. Salary and perquisites are commensurate with qualifications and experience, and are comparable with those of other international agricultural research centers.

**Application:** Submit a letter of application, Curriculum Vitae, with names and contact addresses (phone number and e-mail) of three referees. Send to: Ms. Lilia Tan Habacon, HR Manager , AVRDC, P.O. Box 42, Shanhua, Tainan 74199, Taiwan; e-mail: lilia.tanhabacon@netra.avrdc.org.tw; fax: 886-6-583-0009.

**Closing Date:** The closing date for application is 15 December 2007, or until the position is filled.

AVRDC – The World Vegetable Center is the principal international research center dedicated to vegetable research and development. Its mission is to improve nutrition and reduce poverty in the developing world through improved production, quality, processing, marketing and consumption of safe vegetables. For more information on AVRDC – The World Vegetable Center, please go to our website: <<http://www.avrdc.org>>.