

Genebank Manager (Taiwan)

AVRDC – The World Vegetable Center is a nonprofit, 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. The Center is seeking a highly motivated and experienced Genebank Manager to manage the conservation of the Center's genetic resources, and to lead and conduct research on vegetable genetic resources to develop improved and safe vegetable for resource-poor farmers and consumers in the developing countries.

Key Responsibilities

1. Manage and provide scientific direction to the Center's Genetic Resources and Seed Unit
2. Collect, characterize, document, conserve and distribute germplasm of the Center's principal crops and other selected vegetable species
3. Develop and conduct research in support of the genetic resources conservation and sustainable utilization functions
4. Facilitate the use of the Center's genetic resources by the Center's scientists and partners, identifying core collections and useful traits
5. Develop strategies and activities which will mobilize the genetic resources of the Center for use by partners in developing countries, and by partner agricultural research institutes.
6. Publish research results in peer-reviewed journals, bulletins, pamphlets, fact sheets and other media
7. Coordinate and develop disciplinary and multidisciplinary grant proposals related to the conservation, characterization and utilization of genetic resources
8. Manage the efficient distribution of germplasm to cooperators, ensuring compliance with intellectual property laws, treaties, MTAs, sanitary and phytosanitary agreements, import permit requirements, etc. relating to genetic resources and germplasm movement/exchange.

Qualifications

- PhD in genetics, plant breeding or closely related field, with five or more years experience in vegetable genetic resources conservation
- Expertise in research areas relevant to vegetable improvement and/or seed production of both open-pollinated and hybrid varieties
- Understanding of international plant genetic resources intellectual property issues, agreements, plant quarantine, phytosanitary issues and other legal issues as related to international treaties and genebank operations
- Experience in computer systems, programming and bar coding, as well as statistical tools in applied genetic resources
- Demonstrated ability to publish in refereed international scientific journals
- Excellent interpersonal skills and proven ability to motivate, inspire and promote team-work in an interdisciplinary, multicultural, and global context
- Experience in fund-raising, proposal preparation and project management
- Proficiency in spoken and written English; knowledge of other international languages desirable
- Willing to travel internationally, including in the remote areas of the developing world

Terms of Appointment: The position will be based at the AVRDC's Headquarters in Taiwan. The initial appointment is for two years with expectation of annual re-appointments. Salary and perquisites are commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Application: Submit a letter of application, Curriculum Vitae, with names and contact addresses (phone number and e-mail) of three referees to Ms Lilia Tan-Habacon, Human Resources Manager, AVRDC - The World Vegetable Center, P.O. Box 42, Shanhua, Tainan 74199, Taiwan; e-mail: lilia.tanhabacon@netra.avrdc.org.tw

Review of Applications: The review of applications will begin 21 April 2008 and continue until the position is filled. Only shortlisted applicants will be notified.

AVRDC – The World Vegetable Center is the principal international research center dedicated to vegetable research and development. Our mission is to alleviate poverty and malnutrition in the developing world through the increased production and consumption of safe vegetables.

For more information on AVRDC – The World Vegetable Center, see <http://www.avrdc.org>.