

Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR)

Associate Professional Officer

Environmental Services and Sustainable Use of Forests Programme: Tropical Forests and Climate Change Adaptation (TroFCCA), West Africa

(Job Code: APO ENV)

The Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR), supported by the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs, is looking for an Associate Professional Officer to work on CIFOR research activities. This program gives promising young researchers/professionals invaluable on-the-job training under guidance by established scientists/professionals.

Title: **Associate Professional Officer**
Reports to: **TroFCCA Project Coordinator**, with support from the **TroFCCA Regional Project Coordinator and Scientist, West Africa**
Duty station: **Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso**
Assignment: Appointment is for one year with possibility of extension up to a total of three years.

Eligibility:

- The position is open to Dutch national or eligible developing country nationals only (the list is posted on http://www.cifor.cgiar.org/docs/_ref/jobs/index.htm);
- Under 32 years of age at the time of application;
- No relatives employed at CIFOR;
- Applicants may not be nationals of the country in which the position is located.

For further information on eligibility criteria, see <http://www.minbuza.nl/associate-experts>

Responsibilities: (For detailed description of the position and the TroFCCA project, please see http://www.cifor.cgiar.org/docs/_ref/jobs/index.htm and http://www.cifor.cgiar.org/trofcca/_ref/home/index.htm)

1. Carry out research activities in the assessment of vulnerability to Climate Change, specifically linked to impacts on forest ecosystems that significantly contribute to development policies in Burkina Faso, Mali and Ghana.
2. Carry out policy relevant research and analysis relating to the mainstreaming of adaptation into development policies in the above mentioned countries.

On top of the above, that will constitute the basis of the APO scientific activities, the APO is expected to:

3. Support the regional scientist and other staff in the assessment of the links between ecosystems services and development policies in West Africa.
4. Support the development methodologies to assess vulnerability of specific development policies, in accordance with the methodological framework of TroFCCA
5. Take part of various field research activities in West African countries.
6. Organize meetings and workshops in collaboration with other team members as required.
7. Assist the team and partners in data collection procedures and analyses; ensure data quality control.
8. Produce scientific papers based on the above topics.
9. Act as the representative of the program in local or international events, when required.

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Qualifications: Masters Degree in a relevant discipline, preferably Development Studies, Environmental or Ecological Economics or Environmental Policy; Experience with ecological modelling and Natural Resources Management.

Relevant Experience:

Required: good understanding of the issues of the impacts of climate change over social and ecological systems; knowledge on policy issues relating to adaptation to climate change and sustainable development; experience in multi-purpose surveys.

Desired: experience of living and working with multi stakeholders in developing countries; prior involvement in similar research studies; knowledge and practice of system modelling techniques.

Skills:

Required: strong analytical and synthesis skills; fluent in written and spoken English and French; has initiative, good in planning and organizing, and able to handle pressure; commitment to interdisciplinary, comparative and impact oriented research;

Desired: good interpersonal skills, able to work independently as well as in a team setting and sensitivity to cultural differences.

Application process:

Letter of interest and curriculum vitae in English should be **sent by email** to: **Human Resources Department CIFOR**, HR@CIFOR.EXCH.CGIAR.ORG (Please indicate the Job Code in the e-mail subject).

The curriculum vitae should include personal data; contact details; detailed description of higher education including special assignments/projects; other trainings; work experience; language capabilities and other skills; publications (if any); and details of three referees including telephone and fax numbers and email address.

Deadline for applications is May 2, 2006.

All applications will be acknowledged, however only short listed candidates will be contacted for interviews.

CIFOR is an equal opportunity employer. We believe that diversity of staff contributes to excellence, and we encourage women and nationals from developing country to apply.