Join CIFOR-ICRAF and make a difference!

Theme Leader – Sustainable Value Chains and Investments (Value Chains) (Ref. No.2390)
Value Chain, Finance & Investments Unit (VFI)

Are you ready to make a difference? Join CIFOR-ICRAF and become a key player in leading our dynamic thematic program on sustainable value chains and investments. We are on the lookout for a visionary leader with exceptional technical expertise, outstanding team-building skills, an entrepreneurial spirit, and a business-oriented mindset.

About CIFOR-ICRAF: CIFOR-ICRAF envisions a more equitable world where trees, forests and agroforestry enhance the environment and human well-being across diverse landscapes. As a non-profit science institution, we tackle today’s most pressing challenges, including biodiversity, climate, and food crises. With 40 years of experience in Asia, Africa, and Latin America, we apply multidisciplinary approaches to improve lives and protect ecosystems.

Your Role: Theme Leader – Sustainable Value Chains and Investments

Overview: As the Theme Leader, you will lead the development and implementation of a strategy and project portfolio that delivers impact at scale for socio-economic development based on sustainable natural resource management.

Key Responsibilities:

1. Leadership in R&D on sustainable value chains and investments:
   - Formulate ground-breaking research for development on sustainable value chains and investments, influencing policy and driving development impact.
   - Define and achieve medium-term KPIs and annual goals, contributing to institutional targets and adjusting strategies for impact at scale.
   - Cultivate transformative partnerships with research, donor, policy, and development organizations, driving collaborative efforts for thematic and institutional goals.
   - Identify and prioritize areas for the theme, potentially modifying current focus areas.
   - Ensure career and capacity development opportunities for staff, including mentoring scientists and PhD students.

2. Develop and lead fundraising strategy:
   - Lead the strategic development of project proposals and donor relationships, creating a robust project portfolio.
   - Oversee project sequencing, content, and implementation for sustainable funding, staff development, and policy contribution.
3. **Oversight of analytical and methodological approaches:**
   - Provide scientific and strategic guidance, ensuring research aligns with evidence-based development approaches.
   - Support progress along impact pathways, making research relevant to policy, private sector, and practitioner communities.

4. **Generation of robust evidence and scientific outputs:**
   - Lead the publication of high-impact scientific articles, ensuring accessibility and quality.
   - Safeguard evidence integrity and align scientific outputs with staffing and funding levels.
   - Convey scientific evidence to stakeholders through user-friendly products and engagement activities.

5. **Deliver impact at scale:**
   - Develop and implement scaling strategies, identifying critical points in impact pathways for socio-economic development.
   - Overseer business and investment case development in collaboration with CIFOR-ICRAF’s Resilient Landscapes.
   - Foster integration of evidence-based scaling research and document achieved impact.
   - Work closely with relevant units to deliver, monitor, and document research outcomes and impacts at scale.

**Requirements:**

**Education, knowledge, and experience:**

- Subject matter authority for tropical commodities value chains.
- Ph.D. and/or MBA in a relevant disciplinary field.
- At least 15 years of proven experience if lacking degrees in the relevant field.
- Expertise in forest products, tree crops, or agri-food value chains.

**Personal attributes and competencies:**

- Thought leadership on value chains in Asia, Africa, and Latin America.
- Proven track record in research and development initiatives.
- Documented leadership and management experience.
- Strong track record in business development and resource mobilization.
- Experience in negotiating with executives, managers, and sustainability directors.
Terms and conditions

- This is a Global position. CIFOR-ICRAF offers competitive remuneration in USD commensurate with skills and experience.
- The initial appointment will be for 2 (two) years, inclusive of a six-month probationary period, with the possibility of extension contingent upon performance, continued relevance of the position and available resources.
- The duty station will be in Bogor, Nairobi or another CIFOR-ICRAF country office by arrangement with supervisor.

Application process

- The application deadline is 29 February 2024.
- We will acknowledge all applications but will only contact short-listed candidates.

To apply, please visit our career site at:
https://www.cifor-icraf.org/about/work-with-us/

To learn more about CIFOR-ICRAF, please visit our websites at:
https://www.cifor-icraf.org

CIFOR-ICRAF promotes Gender Diversity – Applications from women professionals are encouraged.

CIFOR-ICRAF is an equal opportunity employer. It fosters a multicultural work environment that values gender equality, teamwork, and respect for diversity.