

IFPRI VACANCY POSTING

POSITION # 07-142 (N)

(INTERNATIONALLY RECRUITED POSITION)

TITLE: POSTDOCTORAL FELLOW

LOCATION: WASHINGTON, D.C.

DIVISION: ENVIRONMENT, PRODUCTION & TECHNOLOGY (EPTD)

GRADE: 15B

REPORTS TO: MARK ROSEGRANT
DIVISION DIRECTOR, EPTD

POSTING DATE: JULY 26, 2007

CLOSING DATE: AUGUST 26, 2007 or until filled

JOB SUMMARY

The International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) seeks a Postdoctoral Fellow (PDF) for a two-year, fixed term, renewable appointment based at IFPRI headquarters located in Washington, D.C. Working with the Research Fellow and Senior Scientist leading the Global Change research theme of IFPRI, and in close collaboration with other staff as appropriate, the successful candidate will conduct research and analysis on land use patterns and shifts under alternative scenarios of global environmental and economic change. The work of the PDF will closely follow the objectives of the IFPRI's research sub-theme 1.1, which examines the functioning of global food systems and closely analyzes the drivers of agricultural production, crop productivity and their effect on human well-being, under emerging environmental and economic stresses. This program seeks to create the necessary linkages between global models of agricultural and non-agricultural growth, to better understand the impacts of global environmental and technological drivers on hunger and poverty. The individual will provide research, communications, and writing support to the other members of the research team, in support of the Division's fund-raising, publication, and research objectives.

Essential Duties

- Conducts research and analysis on agricultural and non-agricultural land use patterns and dynamics within the context of global climate, agricultural, and environmental change, in collaboration with the global change program team of EPTD and external researchers.
- Develops suitable global mathematical model of land use, with an emphasis on the agricultural sector, but which also accounts for land use change interactions with forestry, urban expansion, other non-agricultural land uses. This modeling should take into account changes in population, income and key environmental factors, such as climate change and carbon sequestration. The necessary linkages will be created between this model and IFPRI's IMPACT global partial-equilibrium agricultural sector model, and other global and national policy models within IFPRI.
- Works closely with the principal researchers who develop and maintain the other models of biophysical crop growth, hydrology and economic policy used within the global change program, and supervise support research staff as necessary.
- Works with the extensive land use data currently held within IFPRI, and seek other sources, where necessary, so as to enhance the scope and functioning of the land use modeling tools, and strengthen the existing database within the global change program.

- Maintains a high level of research output for publication outlets both within IFPRI, and within the wider scientific community, on topics of close relevance to the global change research theme.
- Creates linkages to possible external collaborators and research groups, when possible, in order to expand the portfolio of land use analysis tools within EPT as well as to create synergies with complementary modeling tools and methods.
- Supports EPTD contributions to internal and external reviews such as Program and Management Reviews as well as annual and mid-term planning.

Required qualifications

- PhD. in Agricultural Economics, Applied Economics, Earth Systems, Natural Resource Management, Public Policy or other relevant fields.
- Research experience in policy analysis and policy recommendations relating to environmental or natural resource issues in developing country economies.
- Extensive experience with mathematical modeling methods and complementary econometric techniques, with the necessary programming skills to implement directly
- Outstanding ability to perform thoughtful, critical analyses of own as well as existing research.
- Ability to work with researchers from other sciences and backgrounds.
- Excellent communication skills (both oral and written).
- Thorough knowledge of land use modeling techniques and the required national and global databases on which they depend
- Ability to incorporate important environmental factors such as carbon sequestration, climate, land quality and water availability into economic policy models of land use.

Preferred qualifications

- Strong knowledge of GAMS, and the ability to translate other modeling languages into a format compatible with GAMS.
- Knowledge of partial- and general-equilibrium economic models is also highly desirable
- Direct experience working with models of forestry is also highly desirable
- Facility with processing and analyzing data on climate, soils and water
- Experience and demonstrated excellence in written and oral presentations.

IFPRI is one of the international agricultural research institutes organized under the umbrella of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR). The mandate of IFPRI is to identify and analyze alternative national and international strategies and policies for meeting world food needs in ways that conserve the natural resource base, with emphasis on low income and on the poorer groups in the countries.

IFPRI offers a multicultural, collegial research environment with competitive salary and excellent benefits. IFPRI is an international and equal opportunity organization and believes that diversity of its staff contributes to excellence. We encourage women and developing country professionals to apply.

TO APPLY:

Internal Candidates: Please send cover letter & resume – via email – to Alma López.

External Candidates: Go to www.ifpri.org . Click on “*Careers*” and “*Research Positions*” to link you to **Position # 07-142 – Postdoctoral Fellow, EPTD**. **Please complete on-line application, including a complete curriculum vitae and a detailed letter of interest. Also complete section providing 3 references.**

*For more information on IFPRI, please visit our website at www.ifpri.org. **EOE***