



Senior Manager, Evaluation
CGIAR System Advisory Services Shared Secretariat

Candidate Pack

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1. About CGIAR

1a. Vision/Mission/Goals

** Our core aim: a world free of poverty, hunger and environmental degradation*

We work to advance agricultural science and innovation to enable poor people, especially women, to better nourish their families, and improve productivity and resilience, so they can share in economic growth and manage natural resources in the face of climate change and other challenges.

** Strengthening the partnership, creating impact*

To fully unlock the potential of the 2016 CGIAR governance reforms – which opened the door to a reinvigorated sense of collective ownership – in November 2018 the CGIAR System approved an inaugural [CGIAR System 3-year Business Plan \(2019-2021\)](#). This plan represents a transformational moment, with CGIAR's stakeholders committing to working in an increasingly aligned and far more strategic manner. The new CGIAR Business Plan adds up to an ambitious but achievable set of innovations to create a more efficient, focused and less fragmented System. It represents a period of sustained change to proactively manage a necessary evolution of the CGIAR System as it faces profound shifts in its operating environment. The need for a global partnership to transform the food system while restoring our environment has never been greater. Through this business plan, CGIAR as a System is enhancing its performance and capacity to more fully deliver on its critical mandate.

** CGIAR's Strategic Goals and the SDGs*

CGIAR's Strategy and Results Framework provides the strategic direction to deliver on our mission and contribute strongly to the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). We have three goals, known as System Level Outcomes (SLOs):

- Reduce poverty
- Improve food and nutrition security
- Improve natural resources and ecosystem services.

By 2030, the action of CGIAR and its partners will result in 150m fewer hungry people, 100m fewer poor people – at least 50% of whom are women, and 190 million ha. less degraded land.

All the specific goals and targets to 2030 can be seen at <https://www.cgiar.org/how-we-work/strategy/>

1b. Corporate governance

CGIAR's governance model distributes strategic direction, governing and advisory functions among several entities, reflecting the diversity of stakeholders within the CGIAR System and the critical importance of ensuring that the voices of our partners inform our actions and decisions.

Built on a strong partnership between CGIAR's Funders and Research Centers, CGIAR's governance model focuses on enabling Centers and Partners to conduct high-quality research for development based on a solid foundation of clearly defined roles, responsibilities and accountabilities. We are confident that the sense of shared ownership and strong collaboration that exists throughout our governance structure, together with our deep commitment to partnership and transparency, provide maximum opportunity for CGIAR to deliver on its vision and the shared hopes and expectations of the CGIAR partnership as a whole.

** CGIAR System Council*

Representatives of Funders and developing countries meet as a [System Council](#) , to keep under review the strategy, mission, impact and continued relevance of the CGIAR System.

** CGIAR System Organization*

The System Organization (an international organization, headquartered in Montpellier, France) provides governance to the CGIAR System in collaboration with the CGIAR System Council and is comprised of two constituent parts: the CGIAR System Management Board and the CGIAR System Management Office.

- The [System Management Board](#) is the governing body of the System Organization, and its composition, function and operational procedure is outlined in the Charter of the CGIAR System Organization.
- The [System Management Office](#) is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the System Organization, providing support to the System Management Board and the System Council, and facilitating collaboration across the CGIAR System to support the fulfillment of CGIAR's mission and goals.

** General Assembly of the Centers*

The General Assembly of the Centers is a forum for CGIAR Research Centers to discuss issues relevant to Centers, including those related to the CGIAR System and the CGIAR System Organization – it is an important linking mechanism for the CGIAR System as a whole.

** Partnership Forum*

CGIAR's Partnership Forum, an innovation introduced in 2016, brings together our diverse group of stakeholders that actively support the CGIAR System to express their views on our operations. The inaugural Partnership Forum is planned to be convened by CGIAR's Centers and Funders in early 2020 to set the forward direction for CGIAR's '2030 Plan' to deliver on its Strategy and Results Framework

2. The Advisory Services Shared Secretariat

2a. What is it and why is it being created?

In May 2018, the System Council considered and approved a future layout for the CGIAR System's advisory functions on science for development advice, impact assessment, and evaluations. The approval included agreement to establish a new CGIAR Advisory Services Shared Secretariat to support the three functional responsibilities contemplated by the System Council's decision.

Pursuant to Terms of Reference approved in October 2018, the CGIAR Advisory Services Shared Secretariat will provide operational support for CGIAR's new Independent Science for Development Council ('ISDC'), CGIAR's Standing Panel on Impact Assessment Standing Panel on Impact Assessment ('SPIA'), and implementation of the CGIAR System's multi-year evaluation plan as approved by the System Council.

Within this strategic context, the System Council has agreed that the following operational principles will guide the role and operations of the Shared Secretariat:

- Independence of advice, being neither Funders nor implementers of CGIAR research programs and/or platforms and avoiding other potential conflicts of interest
- Improved efficiency, with a view to providing advice that maximizes CGIAR's impact while reducing overall costs
- Improved communication, such that various assessments and evaluation workstreams in the System are aligned with CGIAR Business Plan cycles
- Improved and systematic linkage between science and development through innovation and effective partnerships, such that innovation and partnerships are embedded in all aspects of CGIAR's advisory services
- Higher ownership and improved coordination of the advice by the System itself, such that the advice provided by the advisory services needs to be communicated to and formally discussed by the System Council on a regular basis.

2b. Functional Responsibilities

The overall purpose of the Evaluation workstream is to ensure that the evidence from System Council commissioned independent evaluations is informing decision making across the System at strategic opportunities. Please refer to section 3.4 of the Terms of Reference (approved October 2018) in the link provided above for the major functions of the Evaluation workstream, and to the Job Description accompanying our vacancy announcement for details on the deliverables of this role.

2c. Hosting and co-location arrangements

Since their respective establishment in 2010 and 2012, the secretariat for CGIAR System's independent advisory functions on science for development advice and impact assessment (ISPC Secretariat), and its evaluations secretariat functions (Independent Evaluation Arrangement, IEA) have been hosted on behalf of the CGIAR System by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), a non-voting ex-officio member of the System Council and an important long-term partner.

Implementation of the System Council's 2018 decisions on the future layout of CGIAR's advisory functions requires moving from the existing model of two co-located multidisciplinary expert teams (the ISPC Secretariat and IEA) into the new single Shared Secretariat that will be located at new premises in Rome to facilitate strategic co-location with other elements of the System, whilst at the same time ensuring the ongoing independence of the expert advice provided by the advisory functions.

Accordingly, from early 2019, the CGIAR System has endorsed the proposal that the Shared Secretariat be established at the premises of Bioversity International (a CGIAR Research Center and international organization headquartered in Rome, Italy), under the overall hosting umbrella of the CGIAR System Organization. A memorandum of understanding between the CGIAR System Organization and Bioversity International is being entered into to put these new arrangements into practical effect, and staff of the Shared Secretariat will therefore be offered a Bioversity International employment contract for and on behalf of the CGIAR System Organization. A small number of CGIAR System Organization staff will also be co-located in Rome at the Bioversity International premises with effect from early 2019 to maximize collaboration between the various bodies.

3. Ethics and ways of working

The System Organization is committed to cultivating a work environment that reflects teamwork, gender equality, and respect for diversity. We endeavor to foster a multi-cultural environment that is free of any form of harassment and discrimination; and that embraces and values individuals regardless of age, ethnicity, race, gender, national or social origin, marital status or any other form of personal identity.

CGIAR has a deep commitment to partnership, transparency, and accountability. This is reflected in the CGIAR governance structure which focuses on enabling CGIAR's Research Centers and Partners to conduct high-quality research for development based on a solid foundation of clearly defined roles, responsibilities, and accountabilities.

It believes that everyone in the organization is accountable and seeks to ensure the most effective use of all resources made available to us in support of our work to ensure a world free of poverty, hunger, and environmental degradation. Taking note of the sometimes-complex settings in which, our research actions are undertaken, the CGIAR System Organization and each Center have defined for themselves operational policies and procedures to address inherent risks in all that we do.

To ensure accountability, the CGIAR System welcomes reporting of any illegal or unethical conduct (e.g., corruption, fraud, misuse of resources, abuse of authority, etc.) by anyone associated with our work. Our reporting mechanisms are available to everyone – staff, partners, contractors, suppliers, and anyone else who interacts with the CGIAR System, including the public at large.

4. Equal Opportunities Statement

The CGIAR System Organization is an equal opportunity employer, offering a comprehensive package of employee benefits comprising health insurance coverage, a retirement plan, and relocation support where applicable. Full terms and conditions will be made available to shortlisted candidates.

Bioversity International, as the legal entity that will be the employer of this role on behalf of the System Organization, upholds these values and has a deep commitment to equality of opportunity for its staff.

5. Stay informed/keep in touch

You can keep up to date with all the latest news about CGIAR through a range of communication channels:

Our website: <https://www.cgiar.org/>

Follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/CGIAR-270424969671619/>

Or Twitter: <https://twitter.com/CGIAR/>

And on LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/cgiar/>

You can also contact the Human Resources Team at:

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