

Research Fellow – GCRF Trade, Development and the Environment (TRADE) Hub, Cameroon

The University of California Los Angeles (UCLA) and the International Institute of Tropical (IITA) are leading a multi-institutional initiative to develop the Congo Basin Institute (CBI), which is a model for how universities, NGOs, and private business can partner in international development. The CBI's mission is to find integrative breakthrough solutions that conserve the environment and meet the vital needs of the developing world.

The CBI invites applications for a Research Fellow position for its Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF), a UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) Collective Fund project. The candidate will be based out of the IITA/CBI Campus in Yaoundé and should have an excellent foundation in the theory and methods of the ecological costs and benefits of trade in internationally-traded agricultural commodities as well as experience in applied analysis of agricultural, agribusiness, and/or resource economics problems. The successful applicant will be a member of GCRF's multi-institutional team in Central Africa.

The Research Fellow is expected to work independently to manage duties and tasks outlined in the project. These include, but are not limited to, designing, developing and implementing field protocols to study the economic issues related to public and private decision making in agriculture, the food sector and natural resources.

Job Duties:

- Measure and model the ecological costs and benefits of trade in internationally-traded agricultural commodities (Import Trade Auxiliary Communications System, ITACs; Cocoa, Oil Palm);
- Measure and model ecological costs (changes in wildlife or ecosystem function) and benefits (human wellbeing) of trade in wild resources (wild meat, select wild flora such as *Irvingia gabonensis*);
- Training and mentoring undergraduate and graduate students to ensure ongoing, sustainable research-led solutions to TRADE's intractable challenge;
- Developing proposals - both independently and in coordination with other colleagues at CBI- and secure funding from government and philanthropic sources;
- The incumbent will attend professional and stakeholder meetings to present their findings through preparation of oral presentations, scientific papers in peer reviewed journals;
- Literature searches and meta analyses of available scientific data and literature to understand supply to demand-end agricultural commodity trade pathways, volumes and characteristics, within and exported from Development Assistance Committee (DAC) countries
- Participate in the administration and management of the project against the grant deliverables and of CBI as appropriate
- Coordinate with country Director of IITA and CBI on administrative tasks

Required Qualifications:

- Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics, Animal/plant Science, Nutrition, Biology, or related fields.
- Knowledge of wildlife trade from DAC countries (live animals, skins, non-timber products, wildmeat)
- Excellent analytical, statistical and modeling skills, including experience with handling of large datasets.
- Excellent communication, organization, personnel management and mentoring skills.
- Ease of working in oral and written English and/or French with further language proficiency advantageous.
- Experience working in Africa, with a preference for candidates that have lived and worked in Central Africa.

Contract Period

Expected start of work: October 1 2019 (but an earlier or later start may also be possible). The contract period will initially last two years; with the possibility of extension contingent upon satisfactory performance. The post is full-time and requires residence in Yaoundé, Cameroon. The salary package will be commensurate with experience

How to apply

If you are interested please send a cover letter with: 1) curriculum vitae, 2) a personal statement describing research and career goals, and 3) contact information for 3 references to Ms Gomez cgomez@lifesci.ucla.edu on or before August 31, 2019

Application materials should be combined into a single pdf file. Reviews of applications will begin September 1st 2019.