



**International Potato Center
POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT
Ref.: 2020/001/NRS/MOZ/SSA
RESEARCH ASSISTANT – AGRONOMIST**

The International Potato Center (CIP) is seeking to recruit a dynamic and experienced **Agronomist**.

The Position: The Research Assistant – Agronomist will be expected to support the activities of the FoodStart Africa Project in Mozambique. Overall, the agronomist will provide technical support for the implementation of the project's agronomic activities to improve food security and nutrition and incomes of smallholder farming families in the project target areas. In addition, the agronomist will actively participate in project M&E activities.

Location: Maputo, Mozambique

The Project: The overall goal of FoodStart Africa project is to contribute to improved nutrition, food security and incomes of 115,000 smallholder farming families through increased production and better utilization of root and tuber crops. With funding from IFAD, the project is implemented in five countries: Mozambique, Madagascar, Eswatini, Tanzania and Rwanda. In Mozambique the project is implementing activities in 7 districts in Maputo, Gaza and Inhambane Provinces for the next 2 years. The project is led by CIP and is implemented in close collaboration with the Mozambique National Research Program (IIAM) and the government-led IFAD funded investment project, PROSUL.

Key Responsibilities:

- Support the multiplication of sweetpotato planting material in project intervention districts, including the day to day management of casual field labor at IIAM Chokwe. This also includes the selection of farmers as vine multipliers and establishment of vine multiplication plots;
- Support vine multipliers through technical assistance and monitoring. This includes the support of local implementing partners for the management of multiplication (small and large scale) and dissemination of planting material;
- Assist in the implementation of operational research in cropping intensification to strengthen sweetpotato production within the food system, including establishment of participatory trials, monitoring, data collection and analysis;
- Provide technical backstopping support to District Agricultural Departments (SDAEs) in vine multiplication, roots and vines conservation, and yield evaluation;
- Implement interventions to improve storage and post-harvest management of sweetpotato;
- Work closely with SDAEs and PROSUL team in selection of beneficiary households, distribution of planting material to farmers and training of farmers;
- Participate in the promotion of OFSP at district level and in the market;
- Actively participate in project M&E activities;
- Prepare technical reports

- Represent the project leader in district meetings with local government

Selection criteria:

- Bachelor's degree in Agronomy or related field;

- with at least two years of practical work experience
- Experience in conducting capacity building activities at smallholder farmers level;
- Intermediate knowledge on setting up and managing agronomic trials with different experimental designs
- Ability to accurately collect and organize experimental data from field trials
- A good understanding of participatory research methodologies that include smallholder farmers and other stakeholders is essential
- Experience in project monitoring and evaluation is an added advantage;
- Basic written and oral communication skills in local languages (Changana, Chope and Chiswa) is an added advantage;
- Excellent written and oral communication skills in both Portuguese and English;
- Willingness to travel frequently to the field and work under field conditions;
- Ability to compile field reports
- Ability to work in a multidisciplinary team
- Interest in a career in research for development.

Why should you consider this opportunity?

- CIP is a global and reputable international organization that has a strong, state-of-the-art R&D background, and is a recent World Food Prize Winner and awarded with the Al-Sumait Award for our Orange Flesh Sweet Potato work in Africa.
- CIP is dedicated to achieving food security, improved nutrition and well-being, and gender equality for poor people in root and tuber farming and food systems of the developing world.
- CIP is a member of the CGIAR Consortium, a network of 15 research centers that are mostly located in the developing world and supported by more than 50 donor members.

What are the conditions?

The position is Nationally Recruited Staff (NRS) position limited to Mozambique nationals and permanent residents only. The employment contract will be for a **one-year term** (with a 3-month probation period).

How to apply?

Visit the following link: <http://cipotato.org/open-vacancies/> and submit your cover letter and a full C.V. with your references. Screening of applications will begin on **February 1st, 2020** and will continue until the post is filled. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.

***Learn more about CIP by accessing our web site at <http://www.cipotato.org>
CIP is an equal opportunity employer. Qualified women are particularly encouraged to apply***

CIP does not charge a fee at any stage of the recruitment process (application, interview meeting, processing or training). CIP also does not concern itself with information on applicants' bank accounts.