

Aleppo, Syria

The Person and the Job

If you possess a Ph.D. in water sciences or geography, or an equivalent discipline, and have at least 3 years of experience in systemic analysis of irrigated agriculture using approaches that combine technical understanding of water management and farming systems and have the ability to coordinate and carry out research activities on irrigation scheme development and management in North-Eastern Syria, and contribute to studies on irrigation, water management, agricultural performance, poverty reduction, and investment strategies, then this could be the job for you. This position reports to François Molle, the Senior Researcher, IWMI Aleppo, Syria.

You will:

- examine irrigation development policies and strategies in Syria, compile and synthesize existing scientific information on irrigation and water management in the Euphrates basin, with emphasis on the Syrian part;
- contribute to designing and carrying out research activities on water and agricultural management in the irrigated systems supplied by waters from the Euphrates;
- contribute to advising master students involved in specific field research, and
- contribute ideas and assist in bibliographical search regarding research activities to be carried out in other parts of Syria (eg: Orontes or Quweq river basins).

You must possess:

- Ph.D. in water sciences or geography, or an equivalent discipline
- ability to systemic analysis of irrigated agriculture using approaches that combine technical understanding of water management and farming systems, together with consideration of institutional dimensions, as demonstrated in successfully completed reports, a dissertation, or journal articles;
- sensitivity to and interest in social and institutional dimensions of water resource management;
- computer literacy, with skills in handling and quality controlling hydrological and water management data;
- ability to articulate quantitative and qualitative analyses;
- good communication and writing skills, with a good command of both oral and written English;
- ability to effectively establish priorities, plan, organize and monitor own work in an interdisciplinary and multiple task environment;
- strong interpersonal skills and ability to maintain effective working relationships in a multi-cultural, multi-ethnic environment with sensitivity and respect for diversity, and
- ability to work in interdisciplinary teams, with local and international partners.

It would be useful if you had:

- previous working experience in the Middle-East and North-Africa (MENA) region;
- written and spoken Arabic will be a major asset
- skills in GIS and relevant computer software such as WEAP
- knowledge on institutional analysis

A postdoctoral contract is available for two years and is non-renewable. IWMI salaries are competitive with those of similar international institutions and offer a range of benefits including housing and utilities allowance, vehicle allowance, education allowance, annual home leave, health insurance package and shipping assistance.

Closing date: 25 February 2011 (24:00 hrs Sri Lanka time)