

Vacancy Announcement

The Horticulture Competence Centre KoGa (Kompetenzzentrum Gartenbau) is a cooperation of its four support organizations, the University of Bonn, Jülich Research Centre, the Federal State of Rhineland-Palatinate (represented by the Dienstleistungszentrum Rheinland-Pfalz) and the Chamber of Agriculture of North-Rhine-Westphalia. The centre serves as a bridge between practice and science through fostering information exchange between the partners; carrying out joint research and development projects and communicating with stakeholders in science and practice.

More information is available at www.ko-ga.eu.

Together with other partners, KoGa is involved in the project “Diversifying Agriculture for Balanced Nutrition through Fruits and Vegetables in Multi-Storey Cropping Systems” (NutriHAF-Africa), a new research and capacity building project in Ethiopia and Madagascar, which will explore and integrate appropriate vegetable crops into multi-story cropping systems with the aim to increase (micro-) nutrition security, diversify and intensify agriculture and thus to reduce pressure on natural habitats in biodiversity hotspots. By applying a gender-sensitive participatory action research approach, the project ensures that the needs and preferences of poor male and female smallholders are considered and will thus increase the adoption potential.

Subject to the final project approval by the German Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL), KoGa offers a **part-time post-doctoral position** for a:

Senior Researcher: Nutrition/Post-harvest (part time - 50 %)

based at the University of Bonn, INRES Gartenbauwissenschaften.

Your main responsibilities will be:

- Carry out nutritional characterization of the diets consumed in the project region;
- Assess the agricultural and nutritional characteristics of selected fruits and vegetables and develop guidelines;
- Survey existing post-harvest handling methods and contribute to a collation of best practices;
- Scientific coordination of work package 2 (*Identification of appropriate vegetable species, suitable cropping patterns, nutrient content of crops*)
- Contribute to the other project work packages, project workshops and scientific publications.

Expected education, qualifications and experience:

a) Essential:

- A PhD degree in horticulture, nutrition sciences or a related discipline;
- Knowledge of food and nutrition security issues;
- Knowledge of agriculture/horticulture in the tropics, esp. multi-story cropping systems;
- Relevant publications in international peer-reviewed journals;
- Proven leadership and administrative skills, including excellent communication skills;

- Interest and demonstrated ability to work in a multidisciplinary and multi-cultural environment;
- Excellent proficiency in oral and written English;
- Willingness to travel extensively;
- Ability to work independently, efficiently and goal-oriented.

b) Advantageous:

- Work experience in Africa;
- Research experience in vegetable value chains;
- French language skills.

Remuneration:

The remuneration according to German public service regulations (TVL-13; 50 %).

Length of appointment:

The position will be fixed-term for three years, starting in April 2015.

Application deadline:

14th February 2015 or until the position is filled.

Application/further information:

Please send your application (cover letter incl. motivation, CV and statement of work experience, list of publications with one or two relevant articles attached, names and contacts of two referees) should be sent by e-mail in one pdf document (less than 5 MB) to:

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The reference of the position should be clearly marked in the subject line of the e-mail message. All adequate applications will be acknowledged; only short-listed candidates will be contacted. Interviews will likely take place in early March 2015, but KoGa will continue to receive applications until the position is filled.

In keeping with the University's policy regarding gender equity, female applicants are particularly encouraged. Disabled people with identical qualifications will be favored.