



## Senior Scientist – Molecular Breeding Platform Manager



The Generation Challenge Programme (GCP) is seeking a highly innovative and self-motivated senior scientist to manage the implementation and operation of the Molecular Breeding Platform – a one-stop-shop for genotyping and phenotyping services, informatics applications, information and training to facilitate molecular breeding in developing countries. For this five-year, 20 million dollar initiative we require an experienced manager who will supervise project staff members, and liaise with users, service providers and developers to ensure coordination of activities, achievement of milestones outlined in the proposal and good communication among those teams. Access to the Platform will be through an internet portal and helpdesk which the manager will commission and maintain. The manager will work with the GCP Management Team with specialist knowledge of different components, advised by a technical advisory committee, to meet user requirements articulated through a user committee. He/she will arrange meetings, organise training opportunities, maintain communication with different stakeholders, and promote and represent the platform and its respective user communities.

The Platform Manager will report to the MBP Project Leader, GCP Subprogramme 4 Leader Graham McLaren. This international position, based at GCP headquarters in Mexico, is for an initial fixed-term contract of three years, with a high possibility for renewal subject to performance and funding.

### We are seeking candidates with the following qualifications:

1. Ph.D. in plant breeding, plant genetics, statistics or bioinformatics, or 10 years' equivalent experience in plant science.
2. Experience in project management and monitoring of complex workflows.
3. Experience in building productive strategic partnerships.
4. Good understanding of modern plant breeding and related needs.
5. Experience with data and information management and knowledge of the principles of database architecture.
6. Affinity for international agricultural research and development.
7. Ability to work well as part of a multidisciplinary and decentralised team.
8. Excellent communications skills in written and spoken English.

### Experience in the following areas would also be considered a major asset:

1. Experience of marker technologies, marker-assisted selection pipelines, especially in the private sector.
2. Experience in plant phenotyping and physiology under field conditions.
3. Experience with economic analysis of process options, such as alternative breeding strategies.
4. Ability to promote the Platform to different stakeholders and users.

The Generation Challenge Programme ([www.generationcp.org](http://www.generationcp.org)) is an internationally funded, non-profit research and training programme that was created by the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) to bring together research efforts at public and private research institutions in developed and developing countries to build a platform of publicly available genetic and genomic resources and tools that can be used to deliver the fruits of the Genomics Revolution to resource-poor farmers. The Generation Challenge Programme has an annual budget of USD \$14 million.

GCP is hosted by the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT [www.cimmyt.org](http://www.cimmyt.org)); whose main campus is located 45 km northeast of Mexico City, Mexico. CIMMYT has an annual budget of approximately US\$45 million and its mission is to help the poor in the developing world by increasing the productivity, profitability, and sustainability of maize and wheat-based cropping systems while protecting natural resources. CIMMYT employs about 600 permanent staff, including 89 internationally recruited staff and has regional centers and office in 13 other countries, especially in eastern and southern Africa. Rapid growth is occurring in south and East Asia.

CIMMYT/GCP offers an attractive remuneration package paid in US dollars, with a range of benefits including housing allowance, life and health insurance, education allowance (to Grade 12), home leave, retirement fund, and relocation shipping allowance. The CIMMYT campus has recreational and sports facilities and offers transportation to international schools in Mexico City. Good housing is available on and off campus.

***GCP/CIMMYT is an equal-opportunity employer and strives for staff diversity in gender and ethnicity***

Please send via e-mail your letter of application, CV/Resume (including full contact information), and names and contact information of three references to:

Human Resources Manager, CIMMYT  
(Reference GCP 2009/01)

Email: [jobs-cimmyt@cgiar.org](mailto:jobs-cimmyt@cgiar.org)

**Deadline for applications: August 15, 2009**

Shortlisted candidates will be interviewed by the Selection Committee beginning September.

For further information, contact Dr Graham McLaren, GCP SubProgramme 4 Leader, [g.mclaren@cgiar.org](mailto:g.mclaren@cgiar.org)