

The Generation Challenge Programme (GCP) is seeking a highly innovative and self-motivated candidate to provide intellectual leadership for Subprogramme 3 (SP3), 'Trait Capture for Crop Improvement'. This Subprogramme focuses on the validation and refinement of molecular breeding systems and the resultant enhanced germplasm with the primary purpose of increasing the efficiency, speed, and scope of plant breeding gains.

Building on the strong foundation established by SP3 during GCP Phase I, the quality of the phenotyping for drought tolerance will continue to receive major attention. Phase II will see the further development of marker-assisted breeding activities using new approaches. GCP is also positioning itself to lead the development of a molecular breeding platform. The SP3 Leader will implement the evolution of our marker strategy to ensure impact on plant breeding in developing countries.

This international position is for an initial fixed-term contract of three years, with a high possibility for renewal subject to performance and funding. The SPL will report directly to the GCP Director.

We are seeking candidates with the following qualifications:

- PhD degree in plant genetics, molecular biology and/or plant breeding
- Strong leadership with proven management and communication skills
- At least 10 years of practical experience in modern plant breeding technologies, including simulation and decision support tools (experience in the private sector will be a plus)
- Strong expertise in optimising marker-assisted selection pipelines and proposing novel molecular breeding approaches
- Knowledge of drought physiology and plant phenotyping
- Affinity for international agricultural research and development
- Appreciation of intellectual property management
- Ability to work in an interdisciplinary, multicultural and decentralised teams

Main responsibilities for the position will be:

- Develop and implement the SP3 workplan in coordination with the rest of the Management Team
- Provide leadership in the design and implementation of a Programme-level marker-assisted breeding strategy and related research activities
- Oversee the testing and validation of genes, markers and breeding tools in target environments and locally adapted germplasm
- Contribute to the development and testing of the molecular breeding platform
- Evaluate the impact and cost-effectiveness of new breeding technologies and tools
- Contribute to the integration of modern breeding tools in developing country programmes
- Coordinate the development of the GCP phenotyping network
- Represent the Subprogramme or the Programme at different fora and to different stakeholders, including funders

The Generation Challenge Programme (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); 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 and operates through decentralized partnerships, with staff in 11 countries and projects and networks in many more.

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.

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

Please send via e-mail your letter of application **no later than January 9, 2009**, CV/Resume (including full contact information), and names and contact information of three references to:

Human Resources Manager, CIMMYT
(Reference GCP 2008/19)
Email: jobs-cimmyt@cgiar.org

Shortlisted candidates are expected to have an interview with the selection Committee towards the end of January

For further information contact Dr. Jean-Marcel Ribaut, GCP Director, j.ribaut@cgiar.org