



Director, Generation Challenge Program

FUTURE HARVESTSM

An exciting opportunity for a prominent scientist and research manager to lead a new consortium that builds global partnerships to unlock genetic diversity in crops for the resource poor

The Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) (www.cgiar.org) supports 15 Future Harvest Centers working in more than 100 countries to mobilize cutting-edge science to reduce hunger and poverty, improve human nutrition and health, and protect the environment. The **Generation Challenge Program** (www.generationcp.org) is one of three new Challenge Programs (www.cgiar.org/impact/challenge/pilot.html) convened by the CGIAR that focus on complex research issues of overwhelming global significance. The Generation Challenge Program is a consortium of 18 research institutions around the world working together, with numerous outside collaborators, in the areas of genetic diversity, comparative genomics, gene transfer and crop improvement, information systems, and capacity building for developing country national agricultural research systems.

The current program Director is moving to the position of Director General at the International Rice Research Institute, one of the consortium member institutions. The Generation Challenge Program is seeking a new Director to provide scientific and administrative leadership to the Program by coordinating and liaising with participating scientists in over 100 institutions around the world. S/he will ensure that the Program delivers outputs and outcomes consistent with its objectives and that research milestones and other performance indicators are fulfilled. The Director will achieve this objective by building effective alliances across public and private institutions in developing and industrialized countries, as well as coordinating a team of lead scientists who manage the five subprograms. The Program has annual funding of US\$ 14 m. The Director will take the lead in identifying and securing additional funding. S/he will report to the Generation Challenge Program Steering Committee, participate in meetings of this Committee, and convene meetings of the research program management team. The Director is supported by a secretariat and the five internationally recognized subprogram leaders.

The Program secretariat is located in CIMMYT, just outside Mexico City. Ideally the new Director will utilize CIMMYT as his/her Head Quarters; however, the decision as to the official HQ location will be subject to negotiation as appropriate.

We seek candidates with the following qualifications:

- A PhD in biological sciences with at least 10 years of relevant post-PhD experience;
- Demonstrated experience in leading multidisciplinary research teams;
- Demonstrated experience in research and project management;
- A proven track record of fundraising;
- Strong experience with developing country agricultural research; and,
- Willingness to travel extensively.

The ideal candidate will possess excellent communication skills in written and spoken English, and will preferably have facility in a second major language. S/he will lead and manage programs that involve persons from diverse cultures and nationalities, which will require a high level of sensitivity. An ability to monitor and report on research progress to tight deadlines is essential, as is an ability to represent the Program at the international level. .

An internationally competitive and attractive salary and benefits package will be negotiated with the successful candidate, who will be appointed for five years initially. Further details about the position may be obtained from Jennifer Nelson (j.nelson@cgiar.org).

To apply, send a letter of application with your recent curriculum vitae, including postal and e-mail address and fax number, and have letters of recommendation sent from three referees to the address below, by **15 April 2005**.

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