Join CIFOR and make a difference!

Junior Scientific Expert in wood energy (Ref. 1909)
Value Chains, Finance and Investments (VFI) Team
Yangambi Landscape, Democratic Republic of the Congo

The Center for International Forestry Research envisions a more equitable world where forestry and landscapes improve the environment and the well being of all. CIFOR is a non-profit scientific institution which conducts research in the most urgent challenges in the management of forests and landscapes in the world. Using a global and multi-disciplinary approach, we seek to improve human wellbeing, protect the environment and enhance fairness. To that end, we conduct innovative research, develop partners' capacity and actively engage in dialogue with all stakeholders to inform policies and practices that affect forests and people. CIFOR is a CGIAR research center and leads the CGIAR Research Program on Forests, Trees and Agroforestry (FTA). Our headquarters are in Bogor, Indonesia, with offices in Nairobi, Kenya, Yaoundé, Cameroon and Lima, Peru.

CIFOR is looking for a
Junior Scientific Expert in Wood Energy

Preamble

The FORETS project (Training, Research, Environment in TShopo) is an action financed mainly by resources from the 11th European Development Fund. It contributes to the integrated development of the landscape of the Yangambi Biosphere Reserve in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). It aims to improve the conservation and use of biodiversity and ecosystem services for the sustainable development of local populations. Activities are defined along the Yangambi-Kisangani axis in Tshopo province and aim to support local communities by raising awareness, expanding and strengthening of national human resources.

The Governance of Multifunctional Landscapes in Sub-Saharan Africa (GML) project, funded by the European Union, aims to contribute to the improvement of knowledge in its sustainable wood-energy component, in the definition of the best options and networks for a sustainable management of wood energy value chains in sub-Saharan Africa.

This joint initiative by the FORETS and GML projects aims at achieving a series of socio-economic development opportunities in a landscape of about 400 000 ha and that has a direct and indirect impact on a population of about 1 million urban and rural inhabitants.

In particular, one component of the project is dedicated to supporting the value chain related to wood energy, which is among the main causes of degradation of the Yangambi landscape and is responsible for a timber harvest of approximately 430,000 m3 (RWE) every year. Support to local communities will be aimed at supporting sustainable management of wood energy supply (simple management plan and/or plantations), for the reinforcement of technical capacities for coal production and for the restructuring of associations and producers.

The Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR) is the international organization responsible for implementing this initiative with the help of local and international partners.

In this context, CIFOR through IITA, is recruiting a junior scientific expert for focused actions mainly in the field of wood energy.

A summary of responsibilities :

The expert will have the following responsibilities:

- Define, in consultation with the project coordinator, the wood energy operation plan for the different sites of the Yangambi landscape.
- Based on the operational plan developed:
  - o Guide the implementation of simple management plans for local communities.
  - o Organize capacity building sessions for charcoal producers on higher efficiency coal production techniques.
  - o Support producers in their structuring in associations.
  - o Support producer associations in promoting the sale of coal through a green marketing strategy.

- Facilitate the creation of a roadmap on sustainable coal production and trade together with stakeholders.
- Facilitate the implementation of development activities according to the integrated agro-silvo-pastoral and piscicultural approach in consultation with the FORETS staff;
- Collect the data required for tracking results.
- Coordinate all media, communication and dissemination activities and commitments related to the wood energy component with the communication and extension expert.
- Ensure the good management of the assets acquired by the project and applied in the field.
- Participate in FORETS / GML workshops and meetings and contribute to the organization of workshops, meetings and other exchange of experiences activities.
- Periodically write activity reports and contribute to the publication of the results.
- Contribute to other tasks as required by the CIFOR team.

Requirements:

Education, knowledge and experience

- Bachelor's degree in forest sciences, agronomic science or similar;
- At least 3 years' experience in implementing projects focused on forestry, agroforestry, value chain analysis, integrated landscape management or rural development;
- Previous experience in the DRC is mandatory and experience in other African countries would be an asset;
- Experience working with a broad and diverse network of groups and individuals;
- Good command of French and spoken and written English. Knowledge of local languages (Lingala and Swahili) would be considered beneficial;
- Good communication and writing skills;
- Good computer skills (Word, Excel, PowerPoint);
- Have a motorcycle license.

Attributes and personal skills
Ability to animate and organize in sometimes difficult conditions;

- Proficient in personal organization and prioritization, with the ability to manage multiple priorities and work effectively under pressure;
- Excellent interpersonal, teamwork, initiative and exchange skills with other multicultural and multidisciplinary team members;
- Experience working with a broad and diverse network of groups and individuals;
- Very good adaptation capacity within rural / forest areas and community facilitation skills.

Terms and conditions

- This is a nationally recruited staff post;
- CIFOR offers competitive compensation in US dollars based on skills and experience;
- The appointment will be for a period of two years, including a nine-month probationary period, with the possibility of extension based on performance, continued relevance of the position and available resources;
- The workplace will be in Yangambi, Democratic Republic of Congo, or other similar area to be better defined after validation of the work plan.

Application process

• The application deadline is 10 May 2019.
• We will acknowledge all applications, but we will only communicate with short-listed candidates.

To apply, please send your application and updated CV to:
iita-kinshasa@cgiar.org

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http://www.cifor.org

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