



HEAD OF GENE BANK

MARCH 2021



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About CIP

CIP, a global CGIAR research center, works with partners to improve diets and incomes of poor people in Africa, Asia and Latin America through scientific research, innovation, and capacity strengthening. Focusing on potato and sweetpotato as the entry point, CIP's programs seek to strengthen broader agri-food systems to generate economic, social and nutritional benefits for farmers, enterprises and consumers emphasizing the priorities of women and youth in particular.

CIP emphasizes the synergies between social and bio-physical sciences as a core strategy for making breakthroughs in our understanding of complex development challenges in food and agriculture and for our ability to overcome these. Within this pluralistic strategy, qualitative social science has a central, and increasing place for explaining human and institutional behavior and assessing benefits and risks for human development.

CIP's work is embedded in broader global CGIAR research programs encompassing the world's main agro-food systems and priority development challenges.

For more details, please visit CIP website at:
<https://cipotato.org/>

The Opportunity

The International Potato Center (CIP) is seeking a dynamic scientist to head our potato, sweetpotato and Andean root and tuber crops (ARTCs) germplasm bank, and its Biodiversity for the Future Global Program, as an integral part of the One CGIAR Genebanks Unit.

In close collaboration with CIP colleagues and public, private and international partners, the position has responsibilities to implement CIP's and the One CGIAR mission to conserve, expand, characterize, distribute and use the world's largest collection of roots and tubers for the benefit of humankind..

The position initially will report to the Deputy Director General for Research and Development at CIP and, in the future, also to the Director of Genebanks of the One CGIAR, and will be based at CIP's headquarters in Lima, Peru.





Key Responsibilities

- Scientific Leadership to provide direction and oversight of the CIP genebank team and ensure the effective curation and use of the root and tuber collections while adhering to world class genebank standards, as an integral part of CIP's Biodiversity for the Future Global Program.
- Effectively manage performance for staff and managers and build a strong team aligned to the department goals.
- Develop collaborative efforts with CIP's leaders at headquarters and in other regions and with relevant teams working on genetic resources of vegetatively propagated crops.
- Collaborate closely with the CIP and other Centers' Science Leaders in planning and coordinating actions for genetic resources management, research and capacity building of partners worldwide following priorities established by the One CGIAR 2030 Research and Innovation Strategy and investment plans.
- Develop collaborative efforts with public, private, local and international partners to advance the ex-situ conservation, collection and prioritize the use of root and tuber genetic resources.

Key Responsibilities

- Work closely with the CIP Health Quarantine Unit and the Germplasm Acquisition and Distribution Unit to ensure world class phytosanitary standards and harmonization with the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture and the One CGIAR priorities.
- Manage and potentially take responsibility for work packages and/or teams under the future CGIAR Genebank initiative
- Represent the Center and the One CGIAR in a variety of research, investor and partner forums. Increase the visibility and reputation of the CIP genebank. Position the CIP genebank as a world-class, innovating institution that serves as a role model to other genebanks worldwide
- Conduct fundraising activities to support and expand the physical infrastructure, as well as the scope and operations of the CIP genebank and roots, tubers and bananas collections managed by the CGIAR.



A female scientist with dark hair, wearing a white lab coat, safety goggles, and blue gloves, is working in a laboratory. She is holding a white multi-well plate with both hands. In the background, there is a large piece of laboratory equipment, possibly a centrifuge or incubator, with a circular lid. The overall scene is a professional laboratory setting.

Qualifications

Experience

- Minimum of 10 years of experience in genetic resource conservation.
- Experience in management of genebank operations with clonally propagated crops and/or seed crops and understanding of strengths and weaknesses of different conservation methodologies.
- Demonstrated experience in managing a large team and leverage top results.
- Capacity to strategically define a long-term vision for the CIP genebank and turn that into medium- and short-term objectives according to One CGIAR priorities.
- Capacity to manage not only the technical aspects associated with a genebank, but also the financial and economic sides of the operations.
- Extensive knowledge of treaties, conventions and IPRs on plant genetic resources.
- Strong background and publication record in fields such as: genetic resources, ex-situ conservation, diversity assessment, conservation of clonally propagated crops.
- Excellent knowledge of and experience with quality management systems.
- Experience in database management and understanding of molecular tools for the characterization of genetic resources.

Qualifications

Experience

- Demonstrated success in managing multi-disciplinary teams and partnerships and attracting funding.
- Experience in potato and sweetpotato genetic resources conservation, cryopreservation and utilization is a plus.

Skills

- Strong and effective leadership skills.
- Able to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing. Fluency in English is required, and knowledge of Spanish is an asset.

Personal characteristics

- A passionate, energetic and results oriented Scientific Leader.
- Commitment to working in a multi-partner and multi-cultural environment.

Education level

- PhD degree in a Plant Science discipline.





What is CIP Offering?

- Exciting career opportunity in an international organization.
- Internationally competitive salary, paid in US dollars, and commensurate with experience.
- Comprehensive international insurance coverage.
- Attractive retirement plan.
- Three-year term contract with the possibility of renewal.
- Work in an equal and diverse workplace.

Appendix

- [Management Committee](#)
- [Revised Strategy and Corporate Plan 2014-2023](#)
- [CIP 2019 Audited financial statements and complementary information](#)
- [CIP Annual Report 2019](#)



**Image source: Wikimedia
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Application Process

Applications from women and citizen of developing countries are strongly encouraged to apply. CIP seeks diversity and gender balance in its staff.

Applications must include covering letter which should address how the candidate's background/experience relates to the specific duties of the position applied for, curriculum vitae, names, and addresses of three professional referees (which must include either the Head of the applicant's current or previous organization or applicant's direct Supervisor/Superior at his/her present or former place of work). The application should be addressed to Ms. Auree de Carbon by email at:

How to apply? Visit the following link:
<https://www.carrhure.com/career-opportunities/>

adecarbon@carrhure.com no later than **9th of April at 18:00 CET**. Please indicate in the 'Subject' of the email the title 'application for the post of **'Head of Genebank'**.

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for an interview.

