



POSITION VACANCIES

The National Agricultural Research Institute (NARI) is the leading Institute in Papua New Guinea for conducting applied, adaptive and development oriented research on food crops, livestock, alternative food and cash crops, and resource management issues; and providing technical, analytical and diagnostic services and information to the entire agriculture sector in PNG.

Applications are invited from suitably qualified PNG and non-PNG citizens for the following senior positions which are available for immediate recruitment in 2007.

1. Principal Scientist (Grade 14-16) - Crop Improvement / Breeder – Based at Bubia, Lae

The appointee will be required to develop and implement an expanded crop improvement programme both in the lowlands and highlands. This will involve leading teams in the design and implementation of projects to improve the productivity of traditional root and vegetable crops such as sweet potato, potato, yam, taro, banana and green vegetables, improvement of the genetic potential of such crops through conventional breeding and biotechnology, and provision of advice on the maintenance and utilization of PNG plant genetic resources.

Applicants must have a post-graduate qualification, preferably at PhD level, in plant breeding, biotechnology or agronomy plus a minimum of 7 years of research experience.

2. Principal Economist (Grade 14–16) - Based at NARI Headquarters, Bubia, Lae

The appointee will be required to design and implement marketing systems demand and supply analyses for both international and domestic markets, undertake research to understand market operations and requirements, assess traditional and improved production and marketing practices, study and recommend optimal resource use options, and develop the socio-economics and research planning unit of the Institute.

Applicants must have a post-graduate qualification, preferably at PhD level, in agricultural economics or economics plus a minimum of 7 years of research experience.

3. Research Programme Leader (Grade 15-16) – Dry-Lowlands Programme, Laloki

The Dry Lowlands Programme is based at the Institute's Laloki station some 15 km outside of Port Moresby. The Programme Leader will be required to proactively and energetically develop and implement research projects in agronomy, including the use of irrigation, soil science and integrated farming systems. Although concentrated on the problems and opportunities of the dry lowlands, programme activities and responsibilities extend to cover the entire southern region of PNG. Duties will include the development, support and mentoring of programme staff, particularly junior scientists in the design and implementation of their projects, the management of infrastructure, equipment, land, animals, financial and human resources, and the development and implementation of an effective information and farmer outreach programme.

Applicants must have a post-graduate qualification or equivalent, preferably at PhD level, in agronomy or soil science plus a minimum of 10 years of research and senior management experience.

4. Chief Scientist (Grade 15-17) - Based at NARI Headquarters, Bubia, Lae

The Chief Scientist holds the senior scientific position in the Institute, reporting directly to the Director-General, and is responsible for ensuring the scientific standards and quality of the research and technical activities and programmes of the Institute. This requires oversight and development of research proposals and projects; provision of independent advice on scientific, research and technical matters; reviewing and assistance with editing of scientific and technical reports; co-coordinating the approval process for the release

of new technologies; coordinating the production of annual reports; liaising with donors and collaborators; contributing to the formulation of the research and technology policies of the Institute; and providing advice on scientific and research matters and related issues to the Director-General.

Applicants will hold post graduate qualifications preferably at PhD level in agriculture or a related discipline. He/she should have 12 to 15 years of research experience, with at least 5 years as research project or programme leader. Applicants should have a record of high quality agricultural research and scientific leadership, as evidenced by research publications in refereed journals and technical papers.

5. Human Resource Officer (Grade 10-12) - Based at NARI Headquarters, Bubia, Lae (Available only for PNG citizens)

The appointee will be responsible for facilitating, coordinating and implementing human resource management and development programmes and activities. The candidate must have a good knowledge of human resource management practices and be familiar with labour management processes, payroll, salary and staff conditions, appraisals, training and development and providing general support to human resource and senior management. He/she should have initiative to become a proactive member of the human resource team. The position offers a challenging opportunity for a career minded individual in a growing organisation with a diversified multi-racial and multi-cultural environment.

The appointee will have a degree level qualification in human resource management or relevant qualification acceptable to NARI, and with a minimum of 3 years of human resource management experience. Candidates must be computer literate, and have well developed skills in communication and management.

General

The appointees (for 1 to 4 positions) will require well developed leadership and managerial skills, an ability to encourage initiative and lateral thinking by staff, a demonstrated ability to be proactive and work under pressure to meet deadlines, expertise in motivating, mentoring and leading teams of scientists and support staff to implement research, solve problems and create information and knowledge for technology transfer, and involvement in a range of farmer outreach activities. Developing country experience would be a distinct advantage.

Grades within the given ranges and salary levels will depend on qualifications and experience. Salaries and benefits will include base salary, domestic or international market allowance, gratuity, superannuation, leave fares, amenities allowance, and housing or housing allowance. For selection criteria and details on salaries and allowances, and for more information about NARI, please enquire on the following email address or fax, or go to the NARI website.

Applications should include a detailed CV and names and contact details of three referees, and should be sent to:

The Director General
Attention: Manager- Personnel & Administration
National Agricultural Research Institute
P O Box 4415, Lae, Morobe Province
Papua New Guinea

Telephone (675) 475 1446; Fax (675) 475 1449; Email: narihq@nari.org.pg; Web: www.nari.org.pg.

Applications close on 2nd March 2007