



**International Potato Center
POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT
Ref.: 17-39 RA/NRS/ASIA**

RESEARCH ASSISTANT, Shillong

The International Potato Center (CIP) seeks a Research Assistant for the project Food Resilience Through Root and Tuber Crops in Upland and Coastal Communities of the Asia-Pacific, known by its short title **FoodSTART+**. This is a three-year project funded by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the European Union.

The Center: CIP is a not-for-profit international agricultural research-for-development organization with a focus on potato, sweet potato, and Andean roots and tubers. Its vision is of roots and tubers improving the lives of the poor. CIP is dedicated to achieving food security, improved well-being, and gender equity for poor people in root and tuber farming and food systems of the developing world. CIP works with partners to contribute high quality science, technology, and capacity strengthening for sustainable science-based solutions. CIP is headquartered in Lima, Peru, with staff and activities in over 30 locations across Asia, Africa, and Latin America. CIP is a member of the CGIAR Consortium. CGIAR is a global agriculture research partnership for a food secure future. Its science is carried out by the 15 research centers who are members of the CGIAR Consortium in collaboration with hundreds of partner organizations.

The FoodSTART+ project: This three-year project works in four core countries in Asia, namely India, Indonesia, Philippines and Vietnam and in two supplementary countries, namely China and Myanmar. The project aims to assess food vulnerability among poor households with a production and consumption dependence on root and tuber crops (RTCs), and to identify and promote RTC innovations in production, marketing and consumption that enhance food resilience. To achieve this goal at scale, the project develops, validates and implements effective partnership strategies with IFAD investment projects to promote RTCs for food security.

The position: The Research Assistant will be based with the MEGHA-LAMP project in Shillong, Meghalaya, in a physical location to be agreed with the CEO of the Meghalaya Basin Development Authority (MBDA). The Research Assistant will report to the FoodSTART+ Project Coordinator with co-supervisory reporting to the Country Manager and MEGHA-LAMP Officer on Special Duty, MBDA.

Duties and responsibilities:

- Liaise with personnel of the IFAD MEGHA-LAMP investment project
- Assist in channeling technical and methods support to different elements of the MEGHA-LAMP project, especially in relation to the role of roots and tuber crops (RTCs)
- Help coordinate RTC-related capacity building and training events for MEGHA-LAMP
- Contribute to project monitoring, evaluation and reporting of FoodSTART+
- Contribute to FoodSTART+ communications
- Liaise with locally active key Indian research organizations such as ICAR-NEH and CTCRI in relation to R4D opportunities.

Selection criteria:

- Minimum of a good first degree or equivalent in Agriculture, Agronomy, Agribusiness, Agricultural Economics or related areas

- At least two-year work experience in agriculture-related projects involving research for development
- Excellent spoken and written English. Knowledge of the Khasi and/or Garo languages would be an advantage.
- Willingness to travel and occasionally render service beyond normal working hours.
- Available for starting in July.

Conditions: This position is local thus limited to Indian nationals and permanent residents. The employment contract will be for a one-year term with three-month probation period and the possibility of renewal. CIP prides itself on its collegial and supportive working environment, which allows space for personal and professional growth.

Applications: Applicants should apply online through our CIP's Job Opportunities website (<http://cipotato.org/open-vacancies/>), including a letter of motivation, a full C.V. with the names and contact information of two references that are knowledgeable of the candidate's professional qualifications and work experience. Screening of applications will begin on July 15, 2017 and will continue until the post is filled. All applications will be acknowledged; however only short listed candidates will be contacted.

Learn more about CIP by accessing our web site at <http://www.cipotato.org>

CIP is an equal opportunity employer. Qualified women and professionals from developing countries are particularly encouraged to apply