

M.S. SWAMINATHAN RESEARCH FOUNDATION

Project on Vulnerability & Adaptation to Climate Change

The mission of the M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation is to impart a pro-nature, pro-poor and pro-women orientation to a job-led growth strategy in rural areas through harnessing science and technology for environmentally sustainable and socially equitable development. MSSRF is seeking to recruit a Project Director and two specialists, an Agro-meteorologist and a Social scientist and an Administrative Associate for a project on 'Vulnerability Assessment and Enhancing Adaptive Capacity to Climate Change in Semi-arid regions of India'. This is a 4-year program supported by Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) to be implemented in Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan.

Project Director

He/She will be the overall Technical leader of the program, and will help to ensure that an implementable and affordable strategy to meet the challenges of unfavorable temperatures and precipitations is put in place. He/She will work with the other partners (MANAGE and AFPRO) in this multi-disciplinary program, in developing community centered and managed programs for mitigating the adverse impact of aberrant weather in the selected districts of Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan. Should possess Ph D degree in any aspect of environmental/agricultural sciences and a minimum of 5 years of experience in ecosystem assessment and management.

Project Associate

The PA will carry out research and analysis of climate data to assess the effect of climate/weather conditions on crop/water/livestock management practices and suggest relevant adaptation measures in the project areas. He/She would help in providing agronomic and relevant technical inputs based on an understanding of the existing coping mechanisms and the biophysical nature of the project areas. Besides, he/she would assist in the operational aspects of setting up Weather Knowledge Centers in the project sites. The position requires M.Sc. or Ph D in Agro-Meteorology or a related field with 3–5 years of experience in preparing and analysing seasonal agro-meteorological forecasts. Exposure to modern soft ware tools and ability to work on multiple tasks and as a member of an inter-disciplinary team is a clear advantage.

Social Scientist

The incumbent will be assisting in identifying sensitivities of communities to climate extremes and their successful adaptation strategies. He/She would develop methods/tools to map vulnerabilities and determine socio-economic impacts of climate extremes and variability on rural sectors and communities. Candidate should have a flair for carrying out case studies to demonstrate the significance of successful coping examples and communicating such messages appropriately at different levels. The position requires a Masters or Ph D in a relevant discipline of social science (development studies/rural development/Env. Economics or others) with 3–5 years of experience in Agriculture/Water related development work.

Administrative Associate

The AA should have considerable knowledge of standard secretarial practices with good communication skills in English. He/She should have excellent proficiency in word processing especially in Microsoft office, Powerpoint and Excel. The incumbent is responsible for coordinating a variety of reports, meetings and workshops and providing all the necessary support service to the project unit. Candidates should have a basic degree in Science/Arts with considerable secretarial experience and demonstrated skill and aptitude for performing responsible administrative work.

All the positions will be based in Chennai. Travel to project sites is required. Salary Scale for the Project Director position is Rs 20,000–25,000, Project Associate and Social Scientist position Rs 15,000–20,000 and for Administrative Associate Rs 7000–15,000. MSSRF is an equal opportunity center and women candidates are strongly encouraged to apply. For more information on MSSRF and the job description please visit www.mssrf.org. Women candidates are strongly encouraged to apply. Resumes should be sent to, The Manager (Personnel), M. S. Swaminathan Research Foundation, 3rd Cross Street, Taramani Institutional Area, Chennai 600 113 by **15 May 2005**.