

ICARDA Internship Program

Overview of ICARDA:

The International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) is a non-profit international agricultural research center and is a member of a worldwide consortium of 16 international centers supported by the consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR). The CGIAR is an international group of representatives of donor agencies, eminent agricultural scientists and institutional administrators from developed and developing countries who guide and support its work and is co-sponsored by the World Bank, the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United National (FAO) and the United Nations Development Program (UNDP). Its mission is to promote sustainable agriculture to alleviate poverty and hunger and achieve food security in developing countries.

With a staff of over 400 scientists and support personnel, representing more than 40 nationalities, ICARDA serves the entire developing world for the improvement of lentil, barley and faba bean; all dry-area developing countries for the improvement of on-farm water-use efficiency, rangeland and small ruminant production, and the Central West Asia and North Africa region for the improvement of bread and durum wheat, chickpea, and farming systems. ICARDA's research provides global benefits of poverty alleviation through productivity improvements integrated with sustainable natural-resource management practices. ICARDA meets this challenge through research, training and dissemination of information in partnership with the national agricultural research and development systems.

The results of research are transferred through ICARDA's cooperation with national and regional research institutions, with universities and ministries of agriculture, and through the technical assistance and training that the Center provided. A range of training programs is offered extending from residential courses for groups to advanced research opportunities for individuals. These efforts are supported by seminars, publications and specialized information services.

The Internship Program:

ICARDA's internship program is designed to provide practical "hands on" experience in areas of mutual interest of the intern and the host program/unit of ICARDA. The internship will usually last for a period of one to six months as per the assignment and is not intended for a M.Sc. or Ph.D. degree. Such practical experience complement and enhance the intern's academic study and provided contacts in the professional spheres that the students are likely to enter at later stages as graduate with masters degrees. On the other hand, interns are expected to bring cutting edge skills and "new blood" into operational settings of ICARDA. Activities engaged in by interns while at ICARDA will be tailored to the needs of both the intern and the host program / unit. Areas for such internships will vary widely and will include several important fields such as natural resources management, water and water-related subjects, soil conservation and fertility, crop production (agronomy), agro-ecological characterization using GIS and RS, range management, nutrition and feeding of small ruminants, (sheep & goats), socio-economic studies, on-farm research and technology transfer, wheat and barley improvement, food legumes (lentil, chickpea, faba bean) improvement, food legume (vetch and lathyrus) improvement integrated pest management, grain quality, genetic resources conservation and biodiversity, seed production, seed health testing, computer and biometrics, library and information management, human resources development .. etc.

Eligibility and Selection Criteria:

Depending on the availability positions at ICARDA, a limited number internship will be available every year to accommodate eligible under graduate students from the Central and West Asia and North Africa (CWANA) region as well as from other of the world. Priority will be given to interns from the region and for self-funded students. Candidates must be registered as undergraduate students in a university and must indicate the field of their interest, the appropriate date and duration of the internship, and their academic qualifications. Fluency in English is required and prior relevant experience, computing skills as well as knowledge of other languages such as Arabic and French are advantageous.

Interested candidates are requested to send a detailed type written, single sided resume/curriculum vitae in English to the Head of Human Resources Development Unit (HRDU) at ICARDA and selection of candidates will be made in coordination between the ICARDA host program / unit and HRDU. The successful candidates will be submitted to the ICARDA Assistant Director General for Research, ADG (R) for approval and for follow-up by HRDU with the concerned intern.

Terms of the Internship:

The successful interns are expected to fund their international travel and living expenses during their stay at ICARDA. Other costs such as accommodation, local transportation and health and accident insurance may be covered by the ICARDA host programs/units or from sources other than that available to ICARDA. The internship holders are exempted from paying the ICARDA training feed and training material and supplies. Internship will only be granted to the intern, but no to any of the accompanying family members. For details on the ICARDA charges monthly for accommodation, local transportation and insurance, the successful candidates are advised to contact HRDU at ICARDA.

Application for Internship:

Application for ICARDA internship program is opened all year round and interested applicants are invited to send:

A cover letter of interest, curriculum vitae, names, addresses, fax and e-mail contact information of two referees, including their current advisor to:

Head, Human Resources Development
ICARDA
P.O. Box 5466
Aleppo, Syria
Tel: (00963-21) 2213433, 2213477, 2225112
Fax: (00963-21) 2213490, 2225105, 5744622
E-mail: S.Ahmed@CGIAR.ORG

(In sending by e-mail, please do not include graphics or other large file attachments).