

## POSITION DESCRIPTION

<b>Job title</b>	<b>Research Officer – Agriculture and Water Resources Management</b>		
<b>Reports to</b>	Senior Researcher - Political Economy & Water Governance/Head of Office, Nepal	<b>Supervision</b>	None
<b>Grade and level</b>	Grade 2, Level 3	<b>Job family</b>	Research Officer
<b>Working relationship</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scientific Officers</li> <li>• Researchers</li> </ul>	<b>Location</b>	IWMI Nepal Office, Kathmandu.  Based out of the Nepal Office, the Research Officer will spend 10 to 15 days a month at project sites in the mid- and far-western regions of Nepal.
<b>Job category</b>	Nationally Recruited Staff (NRS)		

### **PURPOSE:**

The Research Officer will coordinate work on the project titled *Sustainable, Just and Productive Water Resources Development in Western Nepal* funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The project end date will be March 31, 2019.

The position holder will work on the ground; lead the collection of socioeconomic, biophysical and water resources data for the project team; and monitor the installation of pilot irrigation and institutional interventions in the hills and Terai of Nepal.

### **GENERAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- Play a key role in coordinating project activities at case study sites in the hills and Terai of Nepal.
- Work closely with local partner organizations, and be the key communicator and coordinator between partners.
- Train and support local staff from partner organizations in data collection techniques.
- Support the project partners in collecting primary data for baseline research activities, and for monitoring and evaluation purposes, including biophysical data (e.g., groundwater monitoring) and socioeconomic data (including a major quantitative survey).
- Support local partners in their fieldwork, participating in technical and social research activities, and supporting the team in the implementation of pilot interventions (e.g., organization of field schools, supporting beneficiaries in operating and maintaining equipment, overseeing construction work).

- Work closely with IWMI staff in Kathmandu to assist in data analysis and preparing project outputs.
- Travel regularly between study sites in the mid- and far-western regions of Nepal to support project activities on the ground and working with IWMI and partner teams in their respective offices.
- Be responsible for the:
  - i. coordination of purchases of hardware (e.g., pumping equipment) made by IWMI; and
  - ii. supervision of contracts for infrastructure work paid for by IWMI (e.g., pond rehabilitation). The candidate will be expected to liaise with project partners regarding their needs, obtain quotations, and liaise with IWMI's office in Kathmandu, Nepal, or its headquarters in Colombo, Sri Lanka, to process payments.
- Arrange the logistics for site visits by IWMI and other international project partners.

**KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES REQUIRED:**

- Expertise in geographic information systems (GIS) and producing maps, and conducting GIS-based analyses.
- Knowledge of farming systems, and critical social, economic, technical and ecological issues facing agriculture in Nepal.
- Capacity to prepare reports and publications in English.
- Fluency in Nepali language.
- Written **and** spoken fluency in English.
- Excellent interpersonal skills, and the ability to deal with marginalized communities in a sensitive manner and understand their needs.
- Willingness to live in remote, rural areas for prolonged periods, with at least **10 to 15** working days a month spent in the field.

**MINIMUM EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE REQUIRED:**

**Essential:**

- MSc in **either** rural development, agriculture, hydrology or agricultural/irrigation engineering, or a related discipline.
- Minimum of 3 years' experience working in the irrigation or water management sector.
- Minimum of 3 years' experience in project management or coordination.
- Experience in monitoring and evaluating large-scale projects.
- Extensive experience in rural areas, including working directly with farmers.
- Extensive experience in conducting field research in the agriculture sector.

**Desirable:**

- Experience in conducting large-scale social surveys.
- Experience in collecting hydrological data.
- Experience of working in the Terai or Eastern Gangetic Plains.
- Experience in media engagement, and production of publicity and knowledge dissemination materials.

<b>Approvals</b>	
<b>Management Team member</b>	Acting Deputy Director General - Research
<b>Human Resources</b>	Eranga Peduruarachchi – Head of Human Resources
<b>Effective date</b>	September, 2016

*The above job description has been designed to indicate the general nature and level of work performed by employees within this classification. It is not designed to contain or be interpreted as a comprehensive inventory of all duties and responsibilities, and qualifications required by employees assigned to this position.*