

<b>Job Title:</b>	<b>Research Assistant (1) – NARC</b>
<b>Position Description:</b>	Responsible for developing new plant varieties that have desirable traits. She/he may cross-pollinate plants or use genetic engineering to create new varieties of fruits, vegetables, grains, and other crops.
<b>Reporting to:</b>	The Research Assistant is accountable to an assigned Research Officer
<b>Duty Station:</b>	NARC, travel to other Research Centres will be required.
<b>Duration:</b>	Permanent
<b>Closing Date:</b>	16 <sup>th</sup> December, 2022

**Duties and Responsibilities:**

**The main duties of the Logistics/Liaison Officer are:**

Performs the following duties under the supervision of a senior researcher:

- ✓ Performs a range of agricultural experiments that are designed to provide answers for the specific research problem areas.
- ✓ Assist in the development of concepts, methodologies, guidelines and indicators for agriculture innovation systems;
- ✓ Contribute to the planning and production of scholarly articles, reports and publications by the supervisor.
- ✓ Assist in the collection and preliminary analysis of research data.
- ✓ Performs tests and analyses by applying established analytical methods and procedures or by operating an automated analytical system according to established operating procedures. These activities include basic chemical analyses, and operating automated equipment in the laboratory/Field.

- ✓ Maintaining research experiments which may include labeling, flagging, staking, hoeing, raking mowing, irrigating, and other duties relevant to plant or crop production
- ✓ Devises, recommends and, with the supervisors' approval, modifies methods that are needed to obtain the information requested.
- ✓ Shares details of modified methods with other team members, including those at other site locations.
- ✓ Reviews pertinent scientific literature and selects methods and procedures most appropriate for the research goals, including modifying protocols when necessary to optimize the collection of usable data.
- ✓ Prepares results of findings from experiments conducted, including initial interpretation of significance to the overall project, for interim reports and inclusion in manuscripts, technical reports, oral presentations, and progress reports.
- ✓ Perform all other related duties that may be assigned.

### **Academic Requirement**

- ✓ A Degree in plant breeding, biology, agriculture or a related field.

### **Experience**

- ✓ Five (5) years' experience in plant breeding and any related field.
- ✓ Must be knowledgeable of plant physiology to develop new plant varieties that grow well in different climates and soil types;

### **Professional Knowledge and Skills:**

#### **Required Professional skills**

- ✓ Possess Crop improvement methods;
- ✓ Must be willing to share with other plant breeders to share their research and new plant varieties.
- ✓ Must be willing to also communicate with marketing professionals to promote their new plant varieties.
- ✓ Excellent communication and writing skills;
- ✓ Ability to prioritize and manage multiple tasks simultaneously;
- ✓ Fluent in English;
- ✓ Excellent organizational skills and ability to work in fast-paced environment;
- ✓ Ability to work as a team player.

### **Application Procedure:**

Sierra Leone Agricultural Research Institute (SLARI) will consider applications from any suitably qualified Sierra Leonean and experienced applicant. **All application letters including CVs and other relevant documents should be enveloped and addressed to the Administrative Officer, Sierra Leone Agricultural Research Institute Headquarters, Tower Hill, Freetown before the close of office on Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> December 2022.** Enclosing: – a cover letter explaining why you think you would be suitable for the post, including examples of how you have demonstrated the required competencies; – a copy of your CV; – the names and contact details of three referees (whom we can contact with your consent in case of your being selected), who have good knowledge of your work and character.

Please note that only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.