

	Title of Position	Principal Investigator cum Research Director	Position No.	ReS0001/PPVCII/0323
	Location	Based on the African continent	Application Closing Date	12th March 2023 (No later than 17h00 Central Africa Time)
	Start Date	1 st May 2023	Duration	2 years, with possible 3 year extension based on performance

POSITION SUMMARY

The Regional Network of Agricultural Policy Research Institutes (ReNAPRI) is a regional grouping of agricultural policy think tanks that was established in 2012 and officially registered in 2014. ReNAPRI's mandate is to generate evidence through high quality research with a view to support policy making at national, regional and continental levels. ReNAPRI's 16 centers are located in 15 countries (i.e. East, West, Central and Southern Africa). The network collaborates with several partners and stakeholders across the globe.

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) has engaged ReNAPRI to deliver economic modeling of value chain, policy, and public investment priorities for achieving inclusive agricultural transformation (IAT) outcomes targeted by governments. The goals of the BMGF are to:

- improve national and state-level resource allocation and policies by building the capacity of African think tanks to provide governments with access to high-quality models, tools and analytics for assessing IAT - related priorities and trade-offs associated with alternative policy, public investment, and value chain choices;
- to increase quality, availability, and utility of data and evidence by building the capacity of African policy think tanks to work with governments to socialize; and
- to apply IAT tools and analytics in support of policy, public investment, and value chain prioritization.

The engagement is building on the Policy Prioritization through Value Chain Analysis approach (PPVC I) that was developed by the Bureau for Food and Agricultural Policy (BFAP) and the international Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) and the first phase of implementation included three ReNAPRI centers, namely Tegemeo Institute in Kenya, Sokoine University in Tanzania, and MWPATA in Malawi since 2018.

In the second phase, PPVCII, the BFAP and IFPRI will support five ReNAPRI centers to undertake data collection, curation and management activities, modeling of IAT outcomes and government engagement activities at the country and regional level, drawing on combinations of IFPRI's RIAPA general equilibrium model, BFAP's Africa Sector Model, ReNAPRI's own partial equilibrium model, gross margin and competitiveness analysis, spatial data, climate indicators, and other analytical tools.

The PI will oversee the technical aspects of the projects as stated in respective project documents in achieving the following three outcomes: -

- **Outcome 1:** *RENAPRI centers have the technical capacity to deliver PPVC analytical services for informing government decision making about value chain, policy and public investment prioritization, reform and implementation.*
- **Outcome 2:** *Governments are implementing value chain, policy and public investment reform priorities and recommendations identified by PPVC analytics.*
- **Outcome 3:** *Government are expressing willingness to pay for (effective demand for) PPVC's value chain, policy and public investment prioritization analytics from ReNAPRI centers on an ongoing basis.*



DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

ReNAPRI seeks to recruit a Principal Investigator (PI) cum Research Director at the ReNAPRI Secretariat. 75% of the PI's time will be dedicated to the PPVC II project and 25% to other RENAPRI projects.

Under the PPVC II project the PI will perform the following duties:

- Overall lead and management of the implementation of the PPVC II project funded by the BMGF.
- First point of communication and overall coordination between the program manager of BMGF and RENAPRI on the PPVC II project. This includes the coordination of ReNAPRI feedback to the BMGF on monthly Steerco's, the preparation of feedback reports, scope of work, deliverables, and budgets in collaboration with RENAPRI's PPVC II steering committee.
- Ensure regular coordination and communication between BMGF, ReNAPRI, Capacity Builders (BFAP and IFIPRI) and RENAPRI Centres for timely and effective execution of all needed decisions and actions under the PPVC II.
- Leading the formation and operationalization of the ReNAPRI Modelling Services Centre (MSC) that will provide analytical support to RENAPRI countries that are implementing the PPVC approach.
- Provide support to ReNAPRI centres to facilitate successful implementation, monitoring, and reporting on PPVC II activities.
- Together with ReNAPRI Secretariat ensure smooth operations between capacity builders (BFAP and IFIPRI) and ReNAPRI Centres in implementation and reporting of PPVC II activities.
- Mobilize collaboration between ReNAPRI centres and other key stakeholders including AGRA.
- Advise and support the ReNAPRI Secretariat on any other technical aspects related to trainings, data and analytics, pre and post dissemination of policy recommendations and support of the effective and successful implementation of the PPVC II project.
- Represent, as directed by ReNAPRI, at key events and consultations among participating actors and stakeholders related to the implementation of the PPVC II activities.

For more information on PPVC, please visit www.ppvc.bfap.co.za

Under other ReNAPRI projects (25% of PI's time) , the PI will:

- Work with the Secretariat to support PI's of projects to deliver fully on their mandates and align with donor's expectations
- Mobilise project resources through grant and other proposal writing
- Participate in technical meetings on behalf on ReNAPRI
- Provide forward thinking on ReNAPRI's research agenda'
- Lead in the technical sessions for the ReNAPRI Conference
- Lead in the ReNAPRI research outreach agenda

QUALIFICATIONS

PhD Degree in Agricultural Economics, Development Economics, or related field.

WORK EXPERIENCE

- Minimum of 10 years demonstrated experience working in Africa on management and implementation of projects in the agricultural value chains and food systems, with a preferred focus on agricultural policy analyses, value chain analytics, agri-business management, foresighting and scenario analyses. Proven experience in providing support to policy and program planning and implementation at national and/or regional level. Experience in working with both private and public sector stakeholders to inform policy options and investment decisions (public and private) that drive inclusive agricultural transformation.
- Experience of working in diverse cultural settings and with a variety of stakeholders at multi-national or continental level, culturally and gender sensitive.
- Candidates with demonstrated experience in the use of one of the following tools with have an added advantage.
 - value chain analysis tools, including geospatial tools,
 - ex ante modelling tools, including partial or general equilibrium models



LANGUAGES

- Fluency in written and spoken English (essential)
- Knowledge of French or any other AU language is desirable

COMPETENCIES

- Excellent inter-personal skills, including the ability to establish strong cooperative relationships with senior government officials, private sector stakeholders and development partners.
- Demonstrates integrity with good values and ethical standards.
- High-level planning, organizational, and time management skills, including flexibility, attention to detail and ability to work under pressure to meet deadlines.
- Skills and experience working with one or more of the following analytical models/tools/approaches: value chain mapping & gross margin analysis, geo-spatial analyses, partial-equilibrium modelling and foresighting, computable general-equilibrium modelling.
- Ability to quickly adapt to change and to operate in a fast-paced environment.

REMUNERATION

Remuneration will be commensurate with experience

APPLICATION DETAILS

To apply for this position, please send your detailed application (Cover letter and curriculum vitae) as one document to addressed to:

**The Executive Director
ReNAPRI Secretariat
Lusaka
Zambia**

Email: info@renapri.org

Please indicate the position title and position number in the subject line in you cover letter and email.

Attach your CV with details of three referees, and copies of your relevant certificates.

This Job Description only serves as a guide for the available position. ReNAPRI reserves the right to change, revise, omit, and add in part / in whole, to this document.

ReNAPRI is committed to diversity in its workforce and is an equal opportunity employer. ReNAPRI believes in non-discrimination. Qualified women are encouraged to apply.

To find out more about ReNAPRI, visit our website at <https://renapri.org/>

