



**CIHEAM  
MONTPELLIER**

**International competitive examining vacancy notice  
for the recruitment of a scientific administrator**

**International Centre for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies,  
Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Montpellier (CIHEAM - IAMM)**

**Field: Agroecology /Environmental  
Geography/Agricultural-Economics**

Ref. 20221001

Issue date: 5<sup>th</sup> October 2022

Application deadline: 31 December 2022

INTERVIEWS of shortlisted candidates: Week 3, 2023 (from 16 to 20 January 2023)

FUNCTIONAL TITLE: Scientific administrator

PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT: Montpellier (France)

Starting date: from 1<sup>st</sup> March 2023 and according to the candidate availability

DURATION: 4 years, renewable

**JOB DESCRIPTION**

The Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Montpellier (CIHEAM-IAMM), one of the four institutes of the International Centre for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies (CIHEAM), is an inter-governmental organization whose mission is the development of higher and continuing education, research and cooperation in the Mediterranean area.

A position of scientific administrator in agroecology/environmental geography/Agricultural-Economics is opening at CIHEAM- IAMM. This recruitment is fully in line with the scientific policy that structures the training, research and cooperation activities of CIHEAM-IAMM.

**1. Scientific context and job description**

The Mediterranean region is one of the areas most impacted by climate change and socio-economic instability. According to several observers, countries in the Mediterranean Basin must innovate in order to implement technical, socio-economic and institutional adaptation strategies for the improvement of the performance of agricultural systems, the preservation of the environment and natural resources and the increase in food production. In order to put forward adaptation strategies for improving the resilience of agricultural systems in the area, it is necessary to define – at spatial and temporal levels – the performance of current agricultural systems by taking into account the specificities not only of agricultural production, but also of the rural community, institutional frameworks, available natural resources and of the characteristics of sectors and markets.

Several scientific approaches and methods have been put forward for the characterization and assessment of the performance of agricultural food systems according to different spatial and temporal scales. These approaches include the integrated analysis of agricultural systems, the water-energy-food-ecology Nexus approach, or multi-criteria methods based on the use of high-resolution mapping coupled with impact or optimization models.



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The position on offer ties in with these approaches aimed at assessing the performance of agricultural food systems at a global level (territory, region, country, several countries), by using quantitative approaches. More specifically, it will involve i) comparing, by mobilizing systemic approaches, the performance of agricultural systems on a large scale, and understanding what determines the variations in the services provided according to different modes of production or intensification in the context of climate change, ii) mobilizing heterogeneous datasets (censuses, modelling data, satellite images) and quantitative spatial methods (e.g. Impact model, Kernel method, and Geospatial Artificial Intelligence) in order to develop and analyze indicators (i.e. SDGs) of socio-economic performance. (iii) contributing to the study of the relationship between production diversity and consumption by deepening the understanding of the links between production/cropping systems and food systems on a global level.

More specifically, the main objective of the person recruited will be to characterize the levels, variability and determinants of the productivity and performance of different agricultural systems (primarily in the Mediterranean area) and modes of agricultural production at regional, continental and global levels, by using statistical or survey data (plot, farm, territory). They will contribute to the development, structuring and analysis of databases which will allow the synthesis and comparison between sites of a set of heterogeneous economic, agronomic and agroecological data.

This profile is part of a central development challenge for the Mediterranean area, i.e. the adaptation of Mediterranean territories to climate, food and socio-economic issues, and more specifically concerns the production of quantitative impact analyses and measures to support decision-makers.

CIHEAM-IAMM seeks to recruit a person who will complement/reinforce existing skills. More specifically, the position will involve addressing the effects of climate change on biodiversity in relation to the ecosystem services provided (including carbon sequestration) via existing or future agricultural systems. Such reinforcement will make our work on the design of agricultural food systems more comprehensive by considering broad spatial and temporal scales of analysis.

From a scientific point of view, the candidate will have to contribute to the renewal, in terms of higher education and research, of integrated approaches based on quantitative methods (statistics, biophysical and bio-economic modelling) applied to the development and evaluation of adaptation strategies with a view to supporting policy-making in the face of climatic and market hazards.

### 2. Missions

The activities of the person recruited will be divided among the three missions of CIHEAM-IAMM:

- **Higher education** (second year of a Master's degree). They will be in charge of running the MIDAS Master's degree which will focus on "*Designing innovative agricultural systems in terms of Sustainable Food Production in the Mediterranean area*". In this context, the candidate will primarily teach on the subject of the "*Assessment of the performance of Mediterranean agro-systems under climate and socio-economic changes*".

- **Research and cooperation.** The candidate will have to actively contribute to the development of an international network on the job description topic, respond to international calls for projects based on applied research, research-action and development cooperation, and publish the research results in scientific journals and magazines. Moreover, the candidate will be integrated in several ongoing international projects, such as Horizon Europe (e.g. NATAE, GRANULAR, ALLIANCE) and PRIMA (e.g. AGREEMed).

The position is based in Montpellier and will involve frequent trips to Mediterranean countries.



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### 3. Application

The application **must be written in English** and include the following elements:

- a CV comprising:
  - scientific experience, including a list of publications and research activities
  - teaching experience
  - development cooperation experience
- A dissertation on scientific work or equivalent (maximum 8 pages).
- A cover letter concerning the missions defined in the job description (maximum 3 pages).

### 4. Qualifications required

- **Qualifications:** PhD in one of the following fields: agronomy, geography, or economics. In each case a specialization in agroecology and the ability to conduct quantitative analysis at large spatial scale is required.
- Sound knowledge of quantitative spatial analysis methods
- Teaching experience at Master's degree level is preferable
- Ability to lead and produce research and publications
- **Good spoken and written command of English is mandatory**
- Experience in terms of international tender response is preferable

### 5. Selection process and remuneration

Applications will be examined by a committee of international experts. The shortlisted candidates will be called for an oral presentation of their application. The committee will communicate their selection to the director of CIHEAM-IAMM who will in turn submit his choice to the general secretary of CIHEAM for validation by the CIHEAM Board of Directors.

The candidate selected will have the status of CIHEAM-IAMM administrator with a 4-year renewable Scientific administrator contract which will start with a 6-month probationary period.

The level of remuneration, comparable to that applied in French Higher Education, is set in accordance with the CIHEAM-IAMM pay scale, depending on the selected candidate's qualifications and experience.

CIHEAM-IAMM is committed to a policy of non-discrimination and gender. Position open to people with disabilities.

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#### **Application deadline: 31/12/2022**

The application should include a maximum of 3 electronic documents (doc, odt or pdf files) and be sent by email to the following address:

[emploi@iamm.fr](mailto:emploi@iamm.fr)



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*The CIHEAM is an intergovernmental organisation created in 1962, which now includes thirteen Mediterranean countries: Albania, Algeria, Egypt, France, Greece, Italy, Lebanon, Malta, Morocco, Portugal, Spain, Tunisia and Turkey. Its General Secretariat is located in Paris. The missions of CIHEAM involve training agricultural managers in Mediterranean countries, conducting studies and research on Mediterranean agriculture in an international context, and implementing cooperation projects between countries and stakeholders in the Mediterranean region. CIHEAM-IAMM thus contributes to the production of knowledge and technical skills, and provides its students with the necessary tools to better understand the global and specific problems related to the development of the countries of the Mediterranean basin. The CIHEAM- IAMM is accredited by France to deliver national Master's degrees, and also delivers an international degree: the CIHEAM Master of Science. (<http://www.iamm.ciheam.org/>)*

