

Call for Applications: CARDI Skills Bank

The Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute (CARDI) is seeking individuals with technical expertise in specific commodity and/or thematic areas. The skills which are required, are priority areas which fall in line with CARDI's Medium Term Plan 2014-2016. CARDI frequently undertakes projects and often requires specific competencies to comprise project teams. We are therefore inviting interested, eligible and qualified persons based on the following areas identified below to submit their information by way of the application form for inclusion in our skills bank database.

This call is extended to regional as well as international applicants, however, individuals from CARICOM/CARIFORUM countries are particularly encouraged to apply. Candidates must have a minimum of five years experience in the relevant commodity and/or thematic area, as well as the relevant academic background.

Skill	Description
Agri-Business/ Agri- Economics	¹ Operating techniques and business skills needed to manage businesses within agriculture and allied industries. These skills include business plan preparation, marketing analysis, strategic planning, economic impact analysis, benefit-cost analysis etc.
Agricultural Policy and Strategy	Skill and ability needed to compose, maintain, review and clarify evidence-based policies and strategies related to various commodity and thematic areas within the agriculture sector.
Agronomy- Specialty areas include <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Roots and Tubers - Cereals and Grain legumes - Hot Pepper - Bananas and Plantains 	Crop Scientists/Specialists who plan, study, experiment and execute field trials towards improving crop production systems, crop productivity and harvesting within specific commodity groupings.

¹ Lipton, Kathryn L. 1995. Dictionary of agriculture: from abaca to zoonosis.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Coconuts - Fruits and open field vegetables 	
Animal Genetics	² Focuses on various aspects of animal heredity, or the passing of traits from one generation to the next. Skills set encompasses topics such as genetic variability, genetic testing, and animal breeding.
Biometrics	³ Application of Statistical methods for the analysis of data from agricultural field experiments. It includes the skills and ability to develop systems to collect data, develop databases to compile vast amounts of information, create mathematical models, develop dynamic simulations and perform pattern analyses of biological systems.
Biotechnology	⁴ Possess the skill and ability to understand and manipulate the genetic make-up of organisms for use in the production or processing of agricultural products.
Entomology	⁵ Specializes in the study of insects (and related animals), their habits and habitats. The relationship and interactions between insects and humans are also pertinent to the area of study
Group Dynamics	⁶ Knowledge and understanding of the interactions that influence the attitudes and behaviour of people when they are grouped with others through either choice or accidental circumstances.
Horticulture	⁷ Knowledge and proven experience in producing, improving and marketing fruits, vegetables, flowers, and ornamental plants
Integrated Pest Management	⁸ An ecosystem approach to crop production and protection that combines different

² study.com/directory/category/...and.../Genetics/Animal_Genetics.html

³ <http://www.biometricsociety.org/about/definition-of-biometrics/>

⁴ <http://www.greenfacts.org/en/gmo/3-genetically-engineered-food/1-agricultural-biotechnology.htm>

⁵ <http://www.forestinfo.org/careers/entomologist>

⁶ <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/group+dynamics>

⁷ <http://www.ashs.org/?page=horticulture>

⁸ <http://www.fao.org/agriculture/crops/thematic-sitemap/theme/pests/ipm/en/>

	management strategies and practices to grow healthy crops and minimize the use of pesticides.
IT Specialist	Implementation, Monitoring and maintenance of hardware and software, networks, databases, systems administration functions, application development, website/platform development etc.
Livestock Science - Small Ruminants - Poultry	Knowledge or skill within the livestock sector with regard to breeding, production, farm management and abattoir management etc.
Marketing and Trade Expert	Multi-dimensional field encompassing knowledge in marketing, shipping and packaging, or functions-related to export management, pricing, sourcing, costing, identification of markets, distribution, export finance, tariff and non-tariff barriers to trade, trade policies and foreign exchange.
Plant Breeding	Purposeful manipulation of plant species in order to create desired genotypes and phenotypes for specific purposes.
Plant Pathology	Ability to manipulate plant's surroundings or genetics in order to allow a plant to thrive, grow, and remain disease-free.
Post-Harvest Technology - Plants and Animals	Appropriate production practices, careful harvesting, proper packaging, storage and transport all contribute to good produce quality
Protected Agriculture	⁹ Knowledge and understanding of practices and methods of modifying the environment in order to achieve optimal growth through the use of undercover production systems eg. Greenhouses, shade-houses, tunnel-houses etc.
Seed Technology	¹⁰ Development of new seed & crop varieties
Soil Management	¹¹ Protecting and improving soil performance in order to farm profitably and preserve environmental quality for decades to come.

⁹ <http://www.cardi.org/commodities-themes/protected-agriculture/>

¹⁰ seedtech.ie/

¹¹ <http://www.extension.umn.edu/agriculture/tillage/soil-management/soil-management-series/introduction-to-soil-management/>

Value Chain Analysis

¹²Understanding of actors utilized in bringing a product or service from inception to end market consumers.

¹² <http://acdivoca.org/our-approach/cross-cutting-approaches/value-chain-and-market-system-development>