IAEA International Atomic Energy Agency

Vacancy Notice No. 2014/328

Position and Grade:	**Laboratory Technician (G-4)**
Organizational Unit:	Soil and Water Management and Crop Nutrition Laboratory Soil and Water Management and Crop Nutrition Section Joint FAO/IAEA Division of Nuclear Techniques in Food and Agriculture Department of Nuclear Sciences and Applications
Duty Station:	Seibersdorf, Austria
Issue Date:	16 November 2014
Application Deadline:	**13 December 2014**
Type of Appointment:	Fixed Term Extrabudgetary, 2 years (subject to a probationary period of 1 year)
CCOG codes:	2.J.02

Organizational Setting

The Department of Nuclear Sciences and Applications implements the IAEA's Major Programme 2, "Nuclear Techniques for Development and Environmental Protection". This Major Programme comprises individual programmes on food and agriculture, human health, water resources, environment and radiation technologies. These programmes are supported by laboratories in Seibersdorf, Monaco and Vienna. The Major Programme's objective is to enhance the capacity of Member States to meet basic human needs and to assess and manage the marine and terrestrial environments through the use of nuclear and isotopic techniques in sustainable development programmes.

The Joint FAO/IAEA Division of Nuclear Techniques in Food and Agriculture assists Member States of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the IAEA in using nuclear techniques and related technologies to improve food security, alleviate poverty and promote sustainable agriculture. The Joint Division consists of five Sections, each with an associated laboratory (located in Seibersdorf, 45 km south-east of Vienna), in the areas of: animal production and health; plant breeding and genetics; insect pest control; soil and water management and crop nutrition; and food and environmental protection.

The Soil and Water Management and Crop Nutrition (SWMCN) Section and Laboratory assist Member States in developing improved soil and water management practices for sustainable intensification of agricultural production systems, the conservation of natural resources and the effective use of external inputs through applied and adaptive research and development activities, technology transfer and capacity building.

Main Purpose

Under the overall supervision of the Head of the Soil and Water Management and Crop Nutrition Laboratory and the direct supervision of a Senior Laboratory Technician, the Laboratory Technician will carry out the operation, servicing and repair of mass spectrometers for the determination of N-15, C-13, O-18 and D in about 8 000 samples per year for coordinated research projects (CRPs) and technical cooperation projects (TCPs). The Laboratory Technician will also provide support to research and training work of the Soil and Water Management and Crop Nutrition Laboratory.

Working Relationships

In addition to direct contacts with the Laboratory Head and the Senior Laboratory Technician to receive instructions and assignments, the Laboratory Technician works closely in a team with other staff members of the Soil and Water Management and Crop Nutrition Laboratory and has regular contact with other staff of the Soil and Water Management and Crop Nutrition Section in relation to the implementation of stable isotope analysis, projects and training.

Functions / Key Results Expected

- Carry out, under the supervision of senior technical staff, isotope analysis measurements of light stable isotopes (N-15, C-13, O-18 and D) in soil, plant, nutrients and water, supporting coordinated research and technical cooperation projects, with stable isotope instruments of the SWMCN Laboratory (including GV Instruments IsoPrime, Thermo Flash 2000, Europa Scientific 20-20 and ANCA-NT, Picarro L-1115-i laser water isotope analyser, Los Gatos isotopic CO2 analyser and Los Gatos isotopic N2O analyser).
- Conduct basic trouble-shooting of laboratory equipment, in particular Isotope Ratio Mass Spectrometry and Laser Isotope Analysis instruments.
- Carry out routine servicing and repair of Isotope Ratio Mass Spectrometry and Laser Isotope Analysis instruments.
- Set up and follow up laboratory and greenhouse experiments, under the supervision of senior technical staff.
- Compile experimental data and carry out quality assurance of stable isotope analysis.
- Train fellows in the field of stable isotope analysis of soil, plant and water samples.

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities

- Good knowledge of analytical chemistry essential; experience in stable isotope analysis an asset.
- Ability to use instruments for the measurement of stable isotope ratios (Isotope Ratio Mass Spectrometry (IRMS) and laser isotope analysers). Experience with the instruments of the SWMCN Laboratory (as given in the section above) an asset.
- Computer skills: Good working knowledge of Microsoft Office 2010 (Outlook, Word, Excel, PowerPoint), which is the IAEA standard.
- Good knowledge of computer applications related to laboratory equipment for stable isotope analysis.
- Interpersonal skills to work effectively in a multicultural environment with sensitivity to and respect for diversity.
- Ability to carry out assigned tasks to a high quality and in a timely manner under minimal supervision.
- Proven skills to work accurately and to pay attention to detail.
- Flexibility to work in the laboratory, greenhouse and field.

Education, Experience and Language Skills

- Completed secondary education.
- Higher education or certified training in technical area with a major emphasis on analytical chemistry an asset.
- Minimum of four years of relevant working experience.
- English Language Test (Level 2). Fluency in spoken and written English essential. Working knowledge of German an asset.
- Driving licence also an asset.

NOTE: The incumbent may perform his/her work in areas involving exposure to radioactive materials. Therefore, as an Occupationally Exposed Worker, he/she must be medically cleared by VIC Medical Service and is subject to an appropriate radiation and health monitoring programme, in accordance with the IAEA's Radiation Safety Regulations.

Remuneration

The IAEA offers an attractive remuneration package including a tax-free annual net base salary starting at **€36 261** (subject to mandatory deductions for pension contributions and health insurance), 6 weeks' annual vacation, pension plan and health insurance.

How to Apply

Internal and external applicants need to complete an IAEA Personal History Form. Internal applicants are required to apply online at https://personnel.iaea.org. External applicants are required to apply online at http://recruitment.iaea.org. You can find more information about employment opportunities and working at the IAEA at http://www.iaea.org/About/Jobs. **No e-mail or hard-copy application will be accepted.** All

applicants will be informed of the outcome of their application in due course. Applications received after the application deadline will not be considered. Applicants who do not comply with the aforementioned application guidelines or do not meet the essential requirements specified in this Vacancy Notice will not be considered.

Appointment is subject to a satisfactory medical report. **Recruitment will be on a LOCAL BASIS only.** Outside applicants are required to supply to the IAEA or to authorize it to seek all information relevant to their suitability for employment by the IAEA. **Testing may be part of the recruitment process.**

Applicants should be aware that IAEA staff members are international civil servants and may not accept instructions from any other authority. The IAEA is committed to applying the highest ethical standards in carrying out its mandate. As part of the United Nations common system, the IAEA subscribes to the following core ethical standards (or values): Integrity, Professionalism and Respect for diversity. Staff members may be assigned to any location. The IAEA retains the discretion not to make any appointment to this vacancy, to make an appointment at a lower grade or with a different contract type, or to make an appointment with a modified job description or for shorter duration than indicated above.
