



# A water-secure world!

## THEME LEADER: WATER AVAILABILITY, RISK AND RESILIENCE (WR)

The International Water Management Institute (IWMI) seeks applications from highly motivated, visionary research leaders with exceptional capacity to successfully motivate, manage and lead its research theme on Water Availability, Risk and Resilience (WR).

The **Theme Leader (TL)** will direct IWMI's research theme on Water Availability, Risk and Resilience (WR), provide advanced research-for-development leadership of the theme and the overall research strategy of the Institute. The TL will ensure that the theme delivers on its strategic commitments, contributes to the relevant CGIAR Research Programs (CRPs) and, where assigned, undertakes responsibilities for leading flagship and/or other components of these CRPs. TL will report to the Deputy Director General (Research for Development) (DDG), and will be based at IWMI's headquarters in Colombo, Sri Lanka, or at one of the Institute's major regional offices in Africa or Asia.

Water availability is a key constraint to poverty reduction and food security. The starting point for sustainable water resources management and all water-use activities in any basin is to know how much water is available for various uses, the source of this water (rivers, lakes, aquifers or soil moisture), its interactions with land and livelihoods, and its variability in time and space. Variability of water resources is a major natural impediment for sustainable agriculture, food production and development at large, and is the primary determinant of water scarcity and a significant factor in ensuring national water security. Extremes of variability – floods and droughts – are the primary agents of destruction, severe crop damage and loss of human life. Variability is increasing with climate change, and hence it has to be explicitly accounted for in climate change adaptation strategies.

### The WR research theme aims to:

- incorporate hydrological and hydrogeological assessments at river basin, aquifer, country, regional and global scales under current and future climate scenarios;
- provide services to other IWMI research themes in the modeling of water resources scenarios;
- enhance availability and delivery of water resources data through the use of earth observing system satellites, and information and communication technology (ICT);
- advance data and knowledge on groundwater and surface water processes, availability and variability for various uses across scales, and on the drivers of change to provide solutions that minimize flood- and drought-related risks;
- improve preparedness and maximize the resilience of farmers and nations to natural disasters;
- enhance the adaptive capacity of communities, nations and economic sectors to progressing climate change and increasing water variability; and
- guide environmentally sound and socially acceptable development and operation of various forms and scales of water storage.

The WR research theme currently contributes to the CRPs on Water, Land and Ecosystems (WLE), and Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS), and also to the Managing Resource Variability, Risks and Competing Uses for Increased Resilience (VCR) Flagship under WLE.

### Successful candidates will possess:

- a PhD or equivalent experience in an area relevant to the WR research theme. Related fields of study may include hydrology, geo-informatics, land and water management, hydrological modeling, irrigation and water engineering, agricultural sciences and geographic information systems (GIS);
- 10 years of relevant postdoctoral work experience;
- a minimum of 5 years of program leadership and management experience relevant to IWMI's research program;
- a clear understanding of development challenges and processes, especially those related to the WR research theme;
- experience working in countries with developing economies and an interest in a research-for-development agenda;
- the proven ability to secure research funding; and
- strong international reputation as a key contributor to one or more of the research areas associated with the position, as evidenced by an extensive publication record in peer-reviewed international journals, research impact and other acknowledgements.

This is an internationally recruited position with a competitive salary and benefits package, which includes a housing allowance, transport, education, shipping assistance, annual home leave, retirement and health insurance package.

For a detailed job description and to apply, visit [www.iwmi.org/jobs](http://www.iwmi.org/jobs). Applications must include a copy of your curriculum vitae, cover letter which addresses IWMI's requirements stated above, and contact information of three professional referees who may be contacted. Applications must be submitted by 17:00 (Colombo time) on **September 9, 2016** (Friday).

The International Water Management Institute (IWMI) ([www.iwmi.org](http://www.iwmi.org)) is an international, non-profit, scientific research organization dedicated to providing evidence-based solutions to sustainably manage water and land resources for food security, people's livelihoods and the environment. IWMI is a member of CGIAR, a global research partnership for a food-secure future.

IWMI is an equal opportunity employer and emphasizes the importance of regional and gender diversity in identifying candidates for this position and its staff more generally.