The Sahel and West Africa Club is beginning a new three-year programme combining innovative research, leadership and facilitation, with the objective of promoting African leadership and disseminating stakeholder views. This programme of work has three components: decentralisation and local development, regional integration via the spatial dimension of development, and prospective studies.

The objective is to generate and disseminate new ideas leading to concrete initiatives for the Club’s clients, namely African policy-makers, members of civil society in OECD and West African countries, and aid agencies working in the sub-region.

To adapt to this new role, the Club Secretariat is being restructured with emphasis on the following elements:

1. The extension of its geographic coverage to include all of West Africa, as illustrated by a new name, the Sahel and West Africa Club.

2. Developing its activities with:
   - Focus on strategic management of analytical research;
   - African expertise joining the Club Secretariat;
   - Promoting an interdisciplinary approach to its work;
   - Preserving potential for renewal of competencies.

Senior positions in the Club Secretariat have been redefined to better implement this programme and create real synergy among the three components.

Fixed term appointment: two years

This post is open to nationals from OECD and West African countries.

The Sahel and West Africa Club of the OECD is looking for a Senior Agricultural Economist to work on agri-food, natural resources management and agricultural research in West African countries. The person will work under the direction of the Management Team (http://www.oecd.org/sah/index.htm).
**The job...**

1. Analyse agri-food/agri-business sectors, natural resources management and agricultural research in West Africa. Examine the ways and means of increasing production and markets for agricultural products at the local, regional and international levels.

2. Keep abreast of new and practical developments in these areas which should be taken into account in the analyses. Support the analytical capacity of West African networks interested in these fields.

3. Draft syntheses on topics such as the agri-food sector, natural resources management and agricultural research for the Club's committees and working groups. The work may include sectoral, social and economic analysis, on a country-specific or cross-country basis, and should result in policy recommendations and working strategies.

4. Identify areas in which empirical research is necessary. Undertake ad hoc analyses which contribute to the Club's capacity to initiate reflections on North-South relations.

5. Plan, co-ordinate and supervise research projects conducted by a team of consultants.

6. Draft, or contribute in drafting reports and/or studies for submission to working groups or for publication.

7. Participate in the general work of the Club, where necessary. Contribute to the dissemination of findings via meetings and seminars with working groups and develop contacts with partner networks.

**The person we are looking for should have...**

1. An advanced university degree in agricultural economics, social economy or equivalent and extensive experience in applied economic analysis, including familiarity with empirical techniques, and analytical and forecasting models.

2. At least ten years' experience in the development field, in particular a good knowledge of bilateral and multilateral development co-operation systems. Field experience in Africa, especially Sub-Saharan and with economic operators would be an advantage.

3. Good knowledge of the agri-food, natural resources and applied agricultural research sectors in West Africa. Good knowledge of urban/rural linkages in the dynamics of developing agri-food products. Knowledge of regional and international markets for agricultural and/or agri-food products. Knowledge of West African stakeholders and networks in these sectors.

4. Familiarity with issues on reinforcing the role of women and gender policy. Ability to take into account the gender aspect when planning and implementing activities.

5. Proven ability to supervise and motivate a multicultural team. The ability to conduct meetings and synthetise results. Strong interpersonal skills, including the ability to maintain good working relations with people at all levels in a multicultural environment.
6. Good communication skills, including clear, concise drafting, and the ability to explain social and cultural issues to both experts and wider audiences.

7. Ability to work with African institutions and networks.

8. Excellent knowledge of English and French and proven drafting ability in one of these languages. Computer skills in working with databases, spreadsheets and other standard software.

9. Availability for frequent travel, especially to Africa.

N.B. The appointment may initially be made at the level immediately below if the qualifications and professional experience of the selected applicant correspond to that level; in this case, the duties and responsibilities assigned to the post will be adjusted accordingly.

We are an equal opportunity employer and encourage applications from female candidates.

Applications (in English or French) from nationals of OECD Member countries should quote reference EXD/HRM/VAC(2001)059 and be sent via our on-line application form on www.oecd.org/hrm by 23 August 2001.

Only candidates selected for interview will be contacted.

For more information on OECD and our recruitment, please see www.oecd.org