



General Manager, Partnerships

Job Information Pack

Position Number:	0002
Classification:	SES Band 1
Section:	Partnerships
Location:	Bruce, ACT
Employment Type:	Non-ongoing, Specified Term for up to 5 years

About ACIAR

The Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research ([ACIAR](#)) is a globally unique organisation operating in a dynamic and complex environment under the *Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research Act 1982*. ACIAR is a [statutory](#) agency within the Australian Government's Foreign Affairs and Trade Portfolio. Our headquarters are in Bruce (Canberra). Further information on our current projects, programs and priorities can be found at <https://www.aciar.gov.au/>.

ACIAR fosters international agricultural research-for-development partnerships between researchers, governments, civil society and the private sector. These partnerships aim to improve food security, reduce poverty and enhance environmental sustainability in partner countries.

ACIAR-supported research and capacity development programs contribute significantly to [Australia's International Development Policy](#), enhancing the livelihoods of smallholder farmers, building community resilience and increasing science and policy skills of individuals and organisations in partner countries and in Australia.

In 2022, the [Commission for International Agricultural Research](#) initiated a mid-term review of the ACIAR 10-year strategy to ensure it was fit-for-purpose in light of the unfolding global food security crisis, ongoing recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and new food system challenges due to climate change and other global issues. The external review panel made several recommendations to reflect our changing world, and the revised [ACIAR 10-Year Strategy 2018–27](#) was launched in October 2022.

In August 2023, ACIAR's new [CEO](#) commenced and initiated a review of the ACIAR organisational structure. This position is a critical part of our refreshed ACIAR Executive Team.

About the position

The General Manager, Partnerships (GMP) is part of ACIAR's Executive team, which also includes the General Manager Research and the General Manager Corporate. The Executive team is led by the CEO and works together to ensure that ACIAR delivers on its core mandate of brokering, funding and managing partnerships and investments that catalyse more productive, sustainable and resilient food and farming systems for the benefit of developing countries and Australia.

The GMP leads a multi-disciplinary team to support multilateral and strategic partnerships, deliver communication and stakeholder engagement, undertake impact and evaluation, and facilitate partner country engagement through ACIAR's locally engaged country network. The GMP is responsible for the national and global team that engages, communicates, and develops enduring partnerships with key domestic and international stakeholders. This team works collaboratively to ensure that country/regional priorities inform ACIAR's investments in line with Australia's international development policy and ACIAR's strategic objectives. The GMP works with the GM Research to ensure that future investments are guided by lessons learned from project and program impact assessment, and also ensures ACIAR's work is effectively promoted to our stakeholders through various media platforms and publications.

The GMP will lead by example in the consistent use of ACIAR's policies and procedures to ensure ACIAR operates within the legislative framework and the requirements of the Australian Public Service and Government policy. The GMP will also nurture effective working relationships within the Partnerships team and facilitate a coordinated and collaborative approach across ACIAR.

RESPONSIBILITIES INCLUDE:

1. Take an active role as part of the Executive team in providing strategic advice to the CEO in building ACIAR into a safe, inclusive, high performing and innovative agency.
2. Lead effective consultation with key stakeholders in partner countries to ensure ACIAR's research and capacity development investments are driven by partner country and regional priorities.
3. Develop and communicate the Partnerships team's strategic direction, aligning activities with ACIAR's broader objectives and inspiring team unity and purpose.
4. Consult and ensure partnership models maximise the strengths and mutual benefits of international agricultural research collaborations between Australia and partner country institutions.
5. Lead strategic approaches to ensure ACIAR has contemporary best practice capabilities and performance in science communication and stakeholder engagement, fostering a culture of proactive and effective communication and promoting ACIAR achievements.
6. Drive a culture of achievement and ensure planned projects result in expected outcomes, always striving for quality and compliance with regulatory requirements.
7. Promote and facilitate engagement across ACIAR's key areas, including research, partnerships, and corporate functions, to cultivate a safe, inclusive, cooperative culture and a high-performing work environment.
8. Direct and strategically advise on the oversight and evaluation of ACIAR's research investments and its engagement with multinational research institutions, ensuring effective management and alignment with ACIAR's goals.
9. Identify opportunities and provide strategic advice to the CEO on potential collaborative domestic and international partnerships and co-funding models.
10. Demonstrate unwavering commitment and integrity, consistently uphold public service values, actively embrace, and manage risks, and exhibit personal courage. Be resolute in decision-making and exhibit resilience in the face of challenges, embodying these qualities in all aspects of your role.

Eligibility

- **Australian Citizenship** - our successful candidate must be an Australian citizen at the time an offer of employment is made;
- **Security clearance** - our successful candidate may be required to obtain and maintain a Negative Vetting 1 security clearance;
- **Mandatory qualifications/experience:**
 - A PhD in a relevant discipline or equivalent experience;
 - Well-developed networks across international agricultural and food innovation systems;
 - Extensive experience in brokering agricultural research partnerships in a developing country context; and
 - Experience living and working in developing countries.

Contact

After reading this “*Information Pack*” should you require additional information you are encouraged to contact HRsupport@aciar.gov.au or 02 6217 0500.

Capability Requirements

In addition to meeting the [Work Level Standards](#) for the SES Band 1 classification and adhering to [the Secretaries Charter of Leadership Behaviours](#) and [SES Performance Leadership Framework](#) the following criteria also apply:

1. **Strategic Thinking** - Demonstrated experience in developing and communicating a clear strategic direction for business units, aligning with broader organisational objectives, and fostering a shared sense of purpose.
2. **Achieves Results** - Proven track record in driving projects to successful completion, ensuring outcomes meet expected standards of quality and regulatory compliance, and in effectively managing and evaluating ACIAR's research investments.
3. **Cultivates Productive Working Relationships** - Skilled in fostering engagement across various ACIAR functions, including research, partnerships, and corporate areas, and confident at building strong international research collaborations.
4. **Exemplifies Personal Drive and Integrity** - Exhibits a strong personal drive and integrity, demonstrates public service professionalism, actively engages with risks, shows personal courage, and is committed to decisive action.
5. **Communicates With Influence** - Exceptional communication skills, particularly in developing and conveying the Partnerships team's strategic direction and in consulting to maximise the benefits of partnership models.
6. **Leadership** – Demonstrates exceptional leadership and stakeholder engagement with strong people management skills and experience.

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7. **Role specific Experience** - Extensive experience in overseeing the alignment of research and capacity development investments with partner country priorities, and strategic advisement on engagements with multinational research institutions.

What we need from you

- Tell us in less than 2 pages why you are the right person, what you can offer, and how your skills, knowledge, experience, and qualification are relevant to the role. Note: You can upload your “pitch” as an attachment or include the Cover Letter section of the job application.
- Try not to duplicate information that can already be found in your resume but do highlight any specific examples or achievements that will demonstrate your ability to perform the role.
- Please attach a concise resume to your application which clearly outlines your work experience, educational qualifications, and relevant skills.
- In the application form you will need to provide the details of three referees who can attest and validate your credentials and suitability for the role.

NB: All ACIAR employees demonstrate a commitment to the APS Code of Conduct and Values, as well as to workplace diversity and occupational health and safety. It is also expected that ACIAR employees will have appropriate cross-cultural sensitivities.