



## **Job vacancies at ICROFS**

The International Centre for Research in Organic Food Systems (ICROFS) is a newly established centre without walls funded by the Danish Ministry of Food and Agriculture. ICROFS has the objective of supporting the production and use of organic food through research. The centre initiates, supports and coordinates research of high quality in Denmark, Europe and internationally by involving researchers from a large number of universities and research institutions. The centre builds on the 10 years of experience of DARCOF ([www.darcof.dk](http://www.darcof.dk)) but will have an international mandate and board with members from Africa, Asia, America and Europe.

ICROFS is looking for two academic employees to assist/coordinate the preparation and execution of the centre's strategy in order to increase the volume and quality of organic research internationally.

### **1. CORE Organic assistant coordinator**

The successful ERA net, CORE Organic, which supports trans-national research in organic food and farming between European countries, will enter into a second phase involving deeper and broader collaboration. ICROFS will coordinate this effort and the assistant coordinator will be responsible for the preparation of future plans, proposals for a new ERA net supported by the EU commission and subsequently for initiating new calls for projects. The assistant coordinator will work closely with – and receive direction from – the head of ICROFS.

*Main tasks will include but not be limited to:*

- Communicating with members and participants of CORE Organic
- Planning and organising meetings, preparing material and minutes
- Following up on strategy and decisions taken by members
- Servicing the chair of CORE Organic
- Contacting new potential member states
- Liaising with the commission, member states and other stakeholders
- Preparing a proposal for ERA net, CORE Organic II
- Communicating with trans-national project coordinators and following up on reporting and results
- Organising joint trans-national calls for research projects
- Administrating open access database for publications in organic research ([www.orgprints.org](http://www.orgprints.org))
- Assisting in communication tasks through information material, news letters and internet (websites)
- Some international travels must be expected

### **2. Assistant to the International Board of ICROFS**

The international Board of ICROFS will develop a strategy for procuring funds for research in organic food systems and initiate collaboration between countries in the North and South for the development of the organic food sector. The assistant will carry out the daily activities of the secretariat with the aim of servicing the board and realising the strategy in collaboration with – and under direction of – the head of ICROFS.

*Main tasks will include but not be limited to:*

- Servicing the International Board, arranging meetings, taking minutes, preparing material,
- Developing the strategy for the international board and initiating activities to implement the strategy
- Liaising with possible donors and funding bodies interested in organic research
- Contacting potential partner countries outside Europe with research programmes relevant for collaboration in trans-national research
- Preparing research programmes and calls according to the strategy and possible funding mechanisms
- Collaborating with international research organisations, stakeholders, and donors on the definition of research needs for improved organic food systems
- Supporting ISOFAR as an international society for organic researchers
- Preparing and supporting a strategy for knowledge export from ICROFS to developing countries
- Organisational support to international research projects in organic food systems in a global perspective
- Some international travels must be expected

### **Qualifications**

*For both positions, short listed candidates will fulfil at least the following requirements:*

- Relevant academic degree and at least 3 years of proven, relevant professional experience
- Knowledge of research and exposure to research environment
- Fluency in English orally and written and good writing and communication skills
- Service minded, able to accommodate multiple stakeholders
- Good organisational skills and ability to meet deadlines and handle multiple tasks daily
- Knowledge of principles of organic agriculture
- Interested and able to work in a multicultural environment
- Good spirit
- High level of initiative and self guidance and able to work result-oriented towards agreed goals and objectives
- Willingness to travel internationally when necessary

### **Preferable qualifications**

- Experience with research coordination and experience with preparation of research proposals
- Good overview of research in organic food systems
- Strong international profile with experience from working outside country of origin
- Knowledge and interest in web-based communication
- Knowledge of a Scandinavian language

### **Employment conditions and salary**

The chosen candidate will be offered a full time job starting 1 August 2008 or as soon as possible. Due to external funding the first contract is limited to 18 months but with good possibilities for longer-term employment pending on future funding modalities for ICROFS.

The positions are covered by the terms of the collective agreements on salary for academic staff in Danish state institutions depending on qualifications and experience, plus pension scheme. The secretariat of ICROFS is located on the premises of the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences, University of Aarhus, DK-8830 Tjele, Denmark. Place of employment is Blichers Allé 20, 8830 Tjele, Denmark.

For more information, contact head of ICROFS, Niels Halberg by phone (+45 8999 1206) or by E-mail ([niels.halberg@agrsci.dk](mailto:niels.halberg@agrsci.dk)) or by skype (nielshal).

### **Application**

The applicant should clearly indicate which of the two positions (or if both) are applied for. The application must include a description (max. 1½ page and in English) of how the applicant's qualifications match the demands and main tasks.

Please submit application by E-mail including CV and contact details of two reference persons in English to secretary [Grethe.Hansen@agrsci.dk](mailto:Grethe.Hansen@agrsci.dk). Only applications fulfilling these requirements will be considered.

Interviews will be carried out in Denmark between 26 June and 4 July 2008, alternatively by phone conference.

Deadline for application: 23 June 2008.

Only short listed candidates will be contacted.

*The Faculty of Agricultural Sciences encourages all, irrespective of personal background, to apply.*