

SUBJECT

INNOVAR CALL FOR INTEREST

OUR REFERENCE

INNOVAR SAMPLING & DESCRIPTION

DATE

May 4, 2021

Call for interest

Consultant (Soil expert) for sampling and description of soils on trial site of the EU-INNOVAR project

Duration: 20 hours

Project context:

The INNOVAR project, next-generation plant variety testing for improved cropping on European farmland, is a cooperation between 21 partners and is led by the Agrifood and Biosciences Institute (AFBI) from Belfast. INNOVAR will test a novel concept to introduce innovations in variety testing using data science, genomics, phenomics and machine learning. ISRIC – World Soil Information contributes to INNOVAR with acquisition, management and analyses of data on the environment (weather, soils) at INNOVAR trial sites to be included in variety testing. Due to travel and mobility restrictions under the COVID-19 crisis ISRIC seeks involvement of consultants to do the field sampling and description of trial sites for soils.

Duty Responsibilities:

Description and sampling of the soil at the trial site and classification of the soil in the local (national) classification as well as in World Reference Base for Soil Resources (WRB, update 2015).

We are seeking experts for performing this duty at (one of the following) locations:

Site ID	Nearest city/town (checked)	Country
1	Crossnacreevy, Belfast	Northern Ireland
2	Newcastle, Kildare	Ireland
3	Driffield	United kingdom
4	Nyon	Switzerland
5	Skælskør	Denmark
6	Balcyny (Ostróda)	Poland
7	Nastasiv, Ternopil oblast	Ukraine
7	Nastasiv, Ternopil oblast	Ukraine
8	Nyíregyháza	Hungary
9	Smirna	Romania
10	Tavazzano con Villavesco	Italy
11	Ravenna	Italy
12	Viterbo	Italy
13	Navarra	Spain
14	Santaella (Córdoba)	Spain
15	Escacena del campo (Huelva)	Spain
18	Foggia	Italy

The expert will:

- Make a full description and assessment of site and soil conditions according to the FAO Guidelines for Soil Description (2006)
- Deliver the site and soil description data using the standard form and following the procedure indicated by ISRIC, including field soil classification
- Sample the genetic layers in the soil profile and take additional samples on the trial site. Code of samples and procedure will be documented in the field by using the form provided by ISRIC.
- Handle the samples such that they are dried, labelled and packaged for transport
- Collaborate with the INNOVAR trial site manager (and work within the rules of work that apply on the trial site)
- Collaborate with the ISRIC team to coordinate the field work, data collection and the sample shipment

Organizational Competencies:

- Conscientious worker
- Sensitive to the working environment of experimental sites
- Follow protocols set for the task

Qualifications requirements:

The expert will have a university degree and shall have at least 5 years of experience in the field of soil science. His/her experience must include the description and sampling of soils in the field. The expert shall have proven knowledge of the World Reference Base for Soil Resources (update 2015) and experience with description of soils according to the Guidelines for Soil Classification (2006).

In view of costs for travel, the expert will have residence within the area of the trial site (maximum of 6 hours travel).

The expert is proficient in English and the national language of the trial site.

Application information

Interested candidates should send their Curriculum Vitae to maria.ruiperezgonzalez@isric.org and before May 24, 2021. Candidates will indicate for which of the sites they apply and include their actual hourly rate (excl. VAT) and expected travel costs. Candidates may be required to participate in an online interview.