



COMMONWEALTH of LEARNING

Learning for Development

Job Announcement

Education Specialist – Food Security & Environment

Location: Vancouver, BC, Canada

The Commonwealth of Learning (COL) helps governments and institutions use technology to expand the scope, scale and quality of learning. Headquartered in Vancouver, COL promotes policies to make innovation sustainable and works with international partners to build systems and applications that facilitate learning in support of development goals. It is financed by voluntary contributions from Commonwealth governments.

The Position: COL is seeking an eminent and senior professional to join as an Education Specialist–Food Security and Environment (FS&E) to develop and manage programme initiatives aimed at improving livelihoods in rural and peri-urban communities that depend on the food and environment sectors by using open and distance learning (ODL) methodologies. The job holder will be required to work with Commonwealth governments on policy development, to assist agricultural universities, institutions and extension services to use distance education, to expand access to learning for livelihoods and environmental education and to provide appropriate training and continuing professional development to individuals in these areas. Extensive hands-on experience in the use of open and distance learning (ODL) is required.

Applicants must be committed to development and be able to respond creatively to the challenges related to food security and climate change. A minimum of 10 years of professional experience in the use of ODL for the purpose of development and in advising governments on food security and environmental policies is required. The position requires proficiency with office technology, and a readiness to travel internationally.

This 3-year initial appointment is renewable for a further term by mutual agreement.

The person must: be a Commonwealth citizen, with ability to network across multilateral organisations and to work effectively with people from different cultural backgrounds; have the ability to exercise professional judgment, diplomacy and be able to work in a team, while representing COL's interest internally and externally.

To Apply: A full job description is displayed on the COL web site at www.col.org/opportunities. Interested applicants must provide a resume and cover letter highlighting their professional background. Applications must be submitted by email to opportunities@col.org with the subject: **Education Specialist–FS&E position**, at latest by **July 31, 2008**. While we appreciate the interest of all applicants, those who have not been contacted by **August 31, 2008**, should consider that there will be no follow-up to their application.

Applications from women candidates are particularly encouraged.