



OFFICE OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR
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ADVERTISEMENT FOR VACANT POSITION

School of Agriculture and Biotechnology
Seed, Crops and Horticulture Science Department

- Position:** African Agriculture Knowledge Transfer Partnership (AAKTP) Associate.
Fixed Term Contract for 15 months.
- Remuneration:** Kshs. 200,000.00 to Kshs. 270,000.00 per month, dependent upon qualifications and experience (40 hours per week), plus Kshs. 520,000.00 personal development budget.
- Location:** Instaveg Limited, Kirinyaga County, Kenya.

Introduction:

An exciting opportunity to work as an African Agriculture Knowledge Transfer Partnership (KTP) Associate has arisen as part of a collaborative project between the [University of Eldoret](http://www.uoeld.ac.ke), Instaveg Limited and [Cranfield University](http://www.cranfield.ac.uk) UK.

[Instaveg Limited](http://www.instaveg.co.ke) (est. 2014) specialises in aggregating, processing and packaging fresh produce for local and export markets. This project addresses Instaveg's vision of:

- Boosting smallholder productivity to increase production volume and marketable yields of products sustainably
- Delivering innovative soil, water and crop management solutions to increase in-field productivity and reduce 'post-farm' gate losses.
- Improve the cold-chain and packhouse storage efficiencies.
- Reducing wastage by optimising non-fresh market quality compliant product for the frozen product market.

With expertise from Eldoret and Cranfield Universities, this project will develop and embed new solutions that grow Instaveg and smallholder businesses, support rural livelihoods and promote gender equity. Through existing knowledge exchange pathways and support from the [African Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Cooling and Cold-Chain](http://www.aces-kenya.org) (ACES), this project will embed accessible farmer-focused management solutions and postharvest practices in everyday processes. ACES is one of the Specialised Outreach and Knowledge Establishments (SPOKES) of the [Clean Cooling Network](http://www.ccn-net.org) (CCN).

About the Role:

You will be embedded within Instaveg Ltd. within the Supply Chain Group, which includes the Technical, Production, Agronomy and Logistics and Administration teams. You will be responsible for managing the project on a day to day basis in close communication with the Company Supervisor and Kenyan and UK-based academic teams.

This African Agriculture KTP has already established a Knowledge Exchange Community of practice through partnering with the ACES and the wider CCN.

During the first month, you are expected to become familiar with the agronomic/soil/water management challenges facing smallholders in the key Instaveg Ltd's out-grower clusters of Laikipia, Nyeri and Kirinyaga counties as well as the current cold chain challenges. Thereafter, you will also be responsible for coordinating farmer field days at Demonstration and Knowledge Exchange Hubs set up in Laikipia, Kirinyaga and Nyeri counties. In addition, you will undertake a mini-project to map out Instaveg Ltd's in-country cold chain logistics.

This role will also involve the evaluation, selection and testing of infield and on/near farm product processing solutions to increase productivity and minimise post-harvest product defects and associated losses. The Associate will continue to monitor current supply chain conditions as well as product quality and safety to identify priority areas for adaptation and mitigation. Subsequently you will be responsible for designing and running a series of experiments to evaluate improved supply chain solutions. Throughout the project the successful candidate will be responsible for embedding 'Best Management' options in Instaveg via 'training of trainer' workshops held with members of the Instaveg Agronomy Team (Farm Managers/Agronomists, 'Champion Farmers and female 'Picker Team Leaders') and Production Management and Technical Management Teams. Suitable Knowledge Exchange (KE) materials will be developed by the associate with input from ACES and the Eldoret and Cranfield KB Teams. Translation into Swahili or Kikuyu will be facilitated by and financially covered by ACES. Wider dissemination of solutions and outcomes of the project will be shared via university webpages and the ACES Knowledge Exchange platform. You will be responsible for generating reports, making presentations to multiple project stakeholders, as well as generation of academic journal articles.

About You:

Qualifications:

You will be educated to a minimum of a Master's degree in soil science, environmental engineering, plant science, horticulture, agronomy, postharvest management, or related discipline. This is to ensure that you have the background knowledge and expertise to carry out the required tasks.

Skills and Attributes:

The project requires excellent interpersonal skills, with ability to build and maintain positive relationships. Strong written and oral communication skills (English) and experience using statistical software e.g. Matlab, Statistica or Genstat is required, as is a high level of competence in Microsoft Word, PowerPoint and Excel. The successful candidate will have excellent time management and organisation skills to ensure milestones and deliverables are achieved on time and to a high standard. Experience of conducting quantitative and qualitative research is also

required. It is desirable that the candidate has previous experience in knowledge transfer/training.

The successful candidate will need to be self-motivated, able to use own initiative, have excellent problem-solving skills and the ability to find solutions to academic and technical challenges. It is also strongly desirable that the candidate has a Ph.D.

in a related discipline and has a working knowledge of Swahili and a valid Kenyan driving license.

About University of Eldoret:

University of Eldoret has a vision to be a *premier University that nurtures Global Leaders and Innovators for Sustainability*. Our mission is to *Provide Quality Education, Training, Research and Entrepreneurship in Science, Agriculture, Engineering, Technology and the Arts to meet the needs and aspirations of a dynamic society*. Find out more here: <https://www.uoeld.ac.ke/>

At University of Eldoret, we are committed to living out core values that influence our actions and practices. These values form the basis for leadership and management practices and guide the behaviour of all our staff. The University's core values include integrity, innovativeness, customer satisfaction, competitiveness, equity, responsiveness and inclusivity. Find out more here: <https://www.uoeld.ac.ke/>.

About Cranfield University UK:

As a specialist postgraduate university, Cranfield's world-class expertise, large-scale facilities and unrivalled industry partnerships are creating leaders in technology and management globally. Learn more about Cranfield and our unique impact [here](#). The project will be supported by [Dr Natalia Falagan](#), [Dr Lembe Magwaza](#) and [Dr Rob Simmons](#) from the [Cranfield Centre for Soil, Agrifood and Biosciences \(SABS\)](#) which has internationally-recognised expertise in agricultural and environmental sciences, with particular strengths in soil and plant sciences, post-harvest and applied [soil and water management](#). Cranfield's shared, stated values help to define who we are and underpin everything we do: Ambition; Impact; Respect; and Community. Find out more [here](#).

Training and Career Development:

The successful candidate will be expected to attend two residential modules at [Ashorne Hill Management College](#) (England, UK) as part of their training. The training programme is designed to equip candidates with the skills and knowledge required to complete their projects successfully. It covers a range of topics that will help to manage the project itself, manage people and improve interpersonal skills, as well as providing a commercial context to activities. There is scope for the training provided to lead to a Chartered Management Institute (CMI) Level 5 qualification in Management. Costs incurred by attendance at the residential training, such as travel, subsistence, and visa application fees, will be covered by the project (subject to prior approval). During these two residential modules the successful candidate will also have the opportunity to visit the Cranfield Centre for Soil, Agrifood and Biosciences and attend relevant modules on [Future Food Sustainability](#).

Eligibility:

An individual currently or previously employed by Instaveg Ltd would not be eligible for the KTP Associate role. Individuals who have already been a KTP Associate would not be considered an ideal candidate.

Application:

Applications should be addressed to the **Vice-Chancellor** and sent electronically in PDF format (as one running document) to: AAKTPprogramme2@uoeld.ac.ke on or before **Friday 11th July, 2025** at midnight.

No applications submitted after the closing date and time will be considered.

University of Eldoret is an Equal Opportunity Employer, thus all potential qualified candidates are encouraged to apply.

Any form of direct or indirect canvassing will lead to automatic disqualification of the candidate. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

University of Eldoret Town Campus September 2025 & January 2026 intake ongoing. Join Us!

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