

Job Description

Job Title:

رئيس المركز الوطني للبحث والتطوير

Location:

Amman, Jordan

Summary:

The position provides visionary leadership and strategic direction for the NCRD, ensuring the advancement of scientific research and development in Jordan, with a particular focus on the pivotal areas of WEFE (Water, Energy, Food, Ecosphere), emerging technologies, and Badia (desert) research. The position champions the Center's mission to enhance Jordan's scientific capabilities, foster innovation, and drive economic growth through impactful research and development initiatives.

Key Responsibilities:

Strategic leadership:

- Develop and implement the Center's strategic plan, in alignment with national research priorities and international best practices, with a particular emphasis on the fields of WEFE, emerging technologies, and Badia research.
- Identify emerging research areas and opportunities for collaboration with academia, industry, and government, specifically within the Center's core focus areas.
- Oversee the development and execution of research programs, ensuring scientific rigor, ethical conduct, and impactful outcomes that address Jordan's specific needs and challenges.
- Foster a culture of innovation, creativity, and continuous improvement within the Center, promoting a spirit of inquiry and discovery.
- Promote strategic initiatives that translate scientific research into actionable insights and technological advancements.
- Enhance interdisciplinary research initiatives that integrate WEFE sectors, addressing complex challenges through collaborative approaches.

Core Functions:

- Develop and maintain a comprehensive database of national research initiatives.
- Champion applied research initiatives, encourage invention and innovation within the Center's focus areas.

- Initiate and support research projects addressing key national challenges, leveraging Jordan's unique strengths to contribute to global knowledge.
- Promote the commercialization of research outputs through technology transfer and the establishment of economically productive companies.
- Organize and participate in specialized workshops, conferences, and training programs related to research and development, both within Jordan and internationally.
- Invest in the development of human resources working in research and development, collaborating with local, regional, and international experts, institutions, and organizations.
- Establish NCRD as a leading innovation center, promoting an entrepreneurial mindset and facilitating the translation of research findings into tangible technological advancements and commercial ventures.
- Drive initiatives that leverage Jordan's unique geographical and cultural strengths in Badia research, aiming to become a global leader in desert studies and related technologies.
- Investigate new frontiers in research and development, experimenting with emerging technologies and methodologies to enhance the NCRD's capabilities and impact.

Operational management:

- Ensure effective and efficient delivery of services, compliance with regulations, and sound financial management in all administrative and financial operations of NCRD.
- Cultivate and lead a high-performing team of diverse professionals, fostering a culture of innovation, collaboration, and continuous learning.
- Implement performance management systems, including key performance indicators (KPIs), to track progress, identify areas for improvement, and ensure accountability at all levels.
- Regularly evaluate NCRD's organizational structure, processes, and technologies to identify and implement optimization, automation, and improved service delivery.
- Enhance operational protocols to support research scalability and interdisciplinary collaboration across the Center's diverse focus areas.
- Prepare and submit annual reports and financial statements to the Board of Directors.

External Relations:

- Build strategic partnerships with academia, research centers, government agencies, industry, and international organizations.
- Actively engage in regional and global networks and initiatives related to science, technology, and innovation and represent the Center in all interactions, showcasing Jordan's research capabilities and potential.
- Build and maintain strong relationships with key stakeholders, fostering collaboration and support for NCRD's mission.
- Promote NCRD's achievements and impact through effective communication and outreach, highlighting its contribution to national development.
- Leverage international forums and collaborations to enhance Jordan's visibility as a hub for innovative research and sustainable development.

Resource management:

- Develop and implement a comprehensive resource management strategy, including financial planning, fundraising, human capital development, and infrastructure investment.
- Secure diverse funding sources, including government allocations, grants, donations, and fee-for-service arrangements, leveraging national and international opportunities.
- Attract and retain top talent by offering competitive compensation, professional development opportunities, and a stimulating work environment.
- Utilize cutting-edge technologies and facilities to foster a forward-thinking research environment that adapts to the evolving scientific landscape.

Qualifications and Experience:

- Ph.D. in relevant scientific or engineering field, preferably in WEFE (Water, Energy, Food, Ecosphere) or emerging technologies.
- At least 10 years of progressive experience with a proven track record in research and development, including a minimum of 5 years in a leadership role managing people and projects.
- Demonstrated track record of publications in reputable, peer-reviewed scientific journals. Contributions to books, patents, and presentations at significant conferences will also be considered.
- Professional-level fluency in Arabic and English, both written and spoken.
- Extensive experience in research program development, execution, and evaluation, with a focus on delivering impactful outcomes.
- Demonstrated ability to build and maintain relationships with key partners in academia, industry, and government.
- Proven strategic thinking, planning, and execution skills with experience managing complex projects, budgets, and teams.
- Exceptional communication, interpersonal, and negotiation skills with the ability to build trust and rapport with a diverse range of stakeholders, including scientists, policymakers, business leaders, and the public.
- Passion for scientific discovery and its application to address Jordan's specific challenges and opportunities.
- Familiarity with national and regional research and innovation ecosystems, including funding mechanisms, regulatory frameworks, and intellectual property regimes.