



ALLIANCE FOR FOOD SOVEREIGNTY IN AFRICA

JOB VACANCY

Healthy Soil Healthy Food Project Officer

Do you want to be part of a solution that puts agroecology and food sovereignty at the heart of African food systems? Do you want to be part of a movement of farmers, civil society organisations and consumers finding and sharing practical solutions to improve the health of our soil, the health of the crops and livestock we grow, and the health of all of us?

Do you have experience in the field of agroecology? Are you very well organised? Is this kind of work a passion and a vocation for you? Do you have lots of energy? If yes, then please read the Terms of Reference for this new position in the AFSA secretariat.

We're looking for someone to coordinate the newly established Healthy Soil Healthy Food initiative, working with organisations and people around the continent to advance practice and learning. If you want to help lead this process and are a good fit with the Terms of Reference, please apply.

About AFSA

Launched in 2011, the Alliance for Food Sovereignty in Africa (AFSA) is a broad alliance of civil society actors who are part of the struggle for food sovereignty and agroecology. AFSA members represent smallholder farmers, fisherfolk, pastoralists, hunter/gatherers, indigenous peoples, faith-based institutions, and consumers across Africa. It is a network of networks, currently with 38 member organisations active in 50 African countries.

The Healthy Soil Healthy Food Initiative

AFSA, in collaboration with the Seed and Knowledge Initiative (SKI), has developed the Healthy Soil Healthy Food initiative. This is a network of Healthy Soil Centres across the continent to implement, share, develop and spread farming and landscape management practices for healthy soils and healthy food. The key outcomes of the HSHF initiative are to:

- Train a cadre of high-level African trainers to lead training/learning programmes on soil regeneration.
- Establish and build the capacity of a network of 15 Healthy Soil Centres across the continent to drive the regeneration of soils in Africa.
- Support 15 Healthy Soil Centres to deliver training services into their communities.
- Assemble an evidence base of the effectiveness of agroecological approaches to soil regeneration (through participatory research).
- Advocate for agroecology and bio-fertilisers to be accepted as the way to produce more and healthier food and resilient communities.
- Support a cohort of young entrepreneurs to grow businesses supplying high-quality agroecological inputs.

Terms of Reference

Position Description

This position brings together many aspects of AFSA's work - nutrition, soil, research and advocacy. The position will enable a network of organisations to collaborate on practical training across the continent. The role will also facilitate a recently launched training programme in collaboration with the Community Managed Natural Farming network in Andhra Pradesh, India, the world's largest example of Agroecology in action.

The position is for an experienced project officer to be part of the AFSA secretariat team. The post holder will be based either in the AFSA West Africa regional secretariat office in Thies, Senegal, or the AFSA secretariat office in Kampala, Uganda, with occasional regional and international travel. As the project operates in both anglophone and francophone countries, bilingual candidates may have an advantage, although this is not a must.

The position is funded for 24 months only. Continuation beyond 24 months is desirable but dependent upon securing further funding. Qualified female candidates are strongly encouraged to apply as women are under-represented in this sector.

Responsibilities

Project management

- Coordinate the delivery of the HSHF program of work.
- Develop, share, review and implement project work plans and budgets.
- Ensure effective and efficient implementation of project objectives, outcomes, outputs and activities.
- Monitor performance indicators, targets and milestones.
- Coordinate the preparation and submission of narrative reports to donors, monitor budgets and ensure that budget lines are adhered to.
- Develop funding proposals.
- Prepare agreements and contracts with local partners, consultants and suppliers following procurement guidelines.
- Stay in constant touch with the Healthy Soil Centres and provide advice and guidance.
- Develop a bank of resource materials and a bank of resource people to call on.

Information & Communications

- Provide relevant information to project partners in appropriate languages, notably English and French.
- Coordinate research and analysis on food sovereignty and related issues and policies in Africa.
- Prepare information working papers and documents for workshops or any other event.
- Collect, maintain and disseminate popular and technical media material to the network.

Organizational Development and Administration

- Participate actively in the collective planning and assessment of AFSA's land program

and organisational development.

Reporting

The HSHF Project Officer will report to the AFSA Land & Agroecology Program Officer and will be guided by the HSHF coordination team and the AFSA Land & Agroecology Working Group.

The Project Officer is expected to carry out any other duties assigned to him/her by management.

Skills required

- Strong project and project management skills.
- Excellent written and spoken communications skills in either French or English with some proficiency in the other language.
- Strong analytical and writing skills.
- A demonstrated understanding of and commitment to gender justice, farmer's rights, and food sovereignty.

Qualifications

- A degree or similar qualification in agroecology, agronomy, international development, project management, human rights, social sciences, or a related field.
- Ideally, at least five years of professional work experience in project management, designing and executing program activities, preferably in a civil society setting.
- Proficient in the use of computer applications related to the tasks, e.g., MS Office applications.
- Proficient in teleconferencing, e.g., ZOOM etc.
- Proficient in using shared drive information systems, e.g., Google Docs

Benefits

The position comes with a competitive salary package for this sector.

Application process

To apply for this position, please send your CV with references and a motivation letter explaining how your skills and experience match the terms of reference, and why you would like to be considered for this position.

Please send your application to admin@afsafrica.org by latest 26th October 2021.