

Value Chain Officers, NOURISH Project

Four positions: two responsible for each of the sorghum (Dodoma) and horticulture (Sumbawanga) value chains

Purpose of the roles

The NOURISH Project Value Chain Officers to play essential stakeholder collaboration and field delivery roles for two complex value chain interventions (sorghum and vegetable value chains). The roles are responsible for the planning, implementation and reporting of specific value chain activities to enhance smallholder farmer (SHF) seed availability and uptake, SHF access to finance, SHF capacity to manage climate smart agriculture and post-harvest loss, SHF-private sector inputs and market linkages, and MSME technical and business capacity. Key responsibilities will relate to the mapping, registering and onboarding potential value chain actors; conducting capacity needs assessments, developing and delivering customized capacity development activities; undertaking field-level farmer outreach and mobilization; and convening B2B meetings and brokering partnerships. Value Chain Officers will collaborate closely with the two CSO partners as well as many private and public sector actors.

The four successful candidates will have a track record in successful value chain intervention delivery, involving aspects of planning, stakeholder collaboration, activity implementation, team collaboration, monitoring, and reporting. They will have relevant knowledge and experience of agriculture in Tanzania, the specific value chains, and practical experience gained from working within either private sector, public sector, or a development organisation.

Key responsibilities

Project implementation:

- Plan and facilitate the field-level activities needed to ensure all value chain activities are effectively achieved across two geographies, in collaboration with CSO partners and other actors, to include:
 - Stimulate the improved seed market and make seeds more available to SHFs:
 - Capacity building in seed production, handling, storage and distribution.
 - Formalise collaborative seed partnerships between SHFs and private sector.
 - Facilitate access to finance for farmers.
 - Foster seed distribution and sale partnerships (SHFs, cooperatives and agro-dealers).
 - Create value chain linkages to build SHF capacity in CSA and PHL, and access technologies:
 - Provide TA to support demonstration plots, Farmer Field Schools and agro-fairs.
 - Promote the use of radio, social media and phone applications to increase outreach.
 - Build the agronomic capacities of private input/offtake outreach schemes and public-private models involving local government extension.

- Facilitate the empowerment of SHFs to influence the establishment of agreements between SHFs/cooperatives and the private sector to improve input supply and market linkages:
 - Formalise collaborative arrangements between SHFs and private sector, including buyers, aggregators, processors, input distributors and financial services.
 - Strengthen SHF organisations/cooperatives (farming/business skills and formalization).
 - Provide TA and monitoring of communication mechanisms.
 - Provide TA to private input/offtake outreach schemes to ensure SHF benefits.
- Facilitate enhancement and marketing of integrated digital services for SHFs:
 - Enable farmer profiling and sensitisation.
 - Enrol SHFs and market actors (MSMEs, suppliers, service providers, off-takers).
- Link MSMEs to business development services for capacity development:
 - Provide TA to independent business development and financial services.
 - Design MSME screening, selection and other business development tools.
 - Broker relationships between MSMEs, business development & financial services.
 - Promote the diversification of crop uses to ensure multiple markets for trade.
- Support the team with preparatory field activities including GESI-responsive analysis, selection of improved varieties and value chain actors for targeted initiatives, formulation of capacity building material as relevant, and participatory planning with government and other actors.

Monitoring and reporting:

- Support the Value Chain team and MEL Coordinator to ensure data collection tools are aligned to project's M&E activity plan and indicators, to acquire good quality data collection, and perform regular monitoring.
- Provide information for work plans, field reports, quarterly reports and donor reports in the agreed format and according to organisational deadlines.
- With support from the Communications Officer and MEL Coordinator, participate in community feedback sessions and document case studies and lessons for improving project delivery.

Role requirements

Qualifications and experience:

- Bachelor's degree in a relevant discipline such as agriculture, agronomy, agribusiness, horticulture, rural development or entrepreneurship.
- Minimum 2 years of relevant work experience in at least one of the value chains (sorghum, sunflower, common bean or vegetables), with knowledge of the agriculture sector in Tanzania.
- Experience in project management, planning and implementation.
- Practical experience and knowledge around organisational capacity assessment.
- Knowledge of farmers' needs, input supply, aggregated marketing, B2B linkages, post-harvest handling and storage, advisory services/good agricultural practices and value addition.



- Understanding of nutrition, climate, and gender-sensitive approaches for smallholder farmers.
- Proficiency in both written and spoken English and Kiswahili.
- Computer literacy (Word and Excel).
- Experience and skills in field data collection, verification, analysis, and report writing.

Desired attributes:

- Passion for working with smallholder farmers and MSMEs in the specific value chain.
- Able to work with diverse stakeholders in a collegiate manner.
- Self-aware, possessing high levels of emotional intelligence and respect for staff, colleagues, and partners.
- Highly motivated self-starter, with strong organisational skills, who takes individual accountability seriously.
- Result-oriented with an entrepreneurial, curious, innovative, and adaptive mindset for problem-solving.
- Excellent social and communication skills (written and oral), as well as reporting skills.
- Commitment to continuous learning and knowledge sharing.
- Strong sense of integrity and personal commitment to the goals and values of SNV and Farm Africa.
- Ability to undertake unaccompanied travel and operate in remote areas.

Additional information

- Location: Dodoma (Two Sorghum VC Officers) or Sumbawanga (Two Horticulture VC Officers) with regular field travel (60%)
- Reports to: Value Chain Coordinator, NOURISH Project
- Contract duration: 2 years, with possibility of extension

To Apply

If interested in this role, please submit a **CV** (no more than 3 pages); a **motivation letter** detailing your interest, suitability and expected salary for the role (no more than 1 page); and a **brief write-up** (no more than 1 page) which also answers the following question: "What do you think are the top three challenges facing food security and nutrition in Tanzania?" The position applied must clearly state the value chain and preferred employment location

This should be sent to Tanzaniarecruitment@farmafrika.org by 5:00 pm EAT on Tuesday 20th, February 2024. Any applications that do not respond to this question will not be considered.