

SWISSAID is an international NGO that works in partnership with local development organizations, networks and communities in their initiatives in the fields of Civil Society Strengthening; Food Sovereignty and Sustainable Livelihoods; and Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment. We are currently working in Kachin State and Shan State.

Vacancy Announcement

Job Title: Ecological Farming Technical Officer
Duty Station: Yangon (with frequent travel to Kachin & Shan States)
Duration: Two years, with possibility of extension.
Reports to: Senior Program Officer

Job Summary

SWISSAID is seeking a dynamic individual for the post of Ecological Farming Technical Officer. The position is a senior post within the SWISSAID programme team and is responsible for managing the ecological farming project. It involves capacity building for local partner organizations and providing in-the-field intensive technical support to partner staff and farmers.

Duties and Responsibilities

A. Capacity Building

The Ecological Farming Technical Officer is responsible for ensuring the continued capacity building of SWISSAID and partner staff through learning across different partner projects and with external actors.

- Organize trainings on integrated farming system approach and agroecological farming principles for partners.
- Develop participatory farming systems assessment and monitoring tools and provide follow up coaching support.
- Support partners to analyse assessment data and develop integrated farming system project design.
- Document best practices on context adapted agroecological practices and share in the learning alliance meetings.

B. Extension and Farmer based research

- Identify farmer researchers, research priorities and develop farmer based research agenda, methodology and tools.
- Provide follow up support to partners and farmer researchers in applying the research methodology and data analysis.
- Facilitate sharing of research results and best practices across farmers and research networks.
- Develop extension curriculum for farmer to farmer led extension.
- Develop knowledge products for sharing with partners and other stakeholders.
- Link partners with external resource persons to address specific agronomic challenges.
- Provide follow up support to partners and farmers who are involved in quality seed production.

C. Value chain and market development:

- Provide support to partners in identifying potential cash crops based on integrated ecological farming system assessment and market analysis.

- Identify and manage external resource persons to conduct value chain assessment with partners and design intervention.
- Provide follow up support to partners for implementing value chain intervention.

D. Advocacy:

- Facilitate the establishment of farmer groups and networks.
- Identify and link with other national actors and regional networks working in the area of ecological farming for knowledge and experience sharing.
- Document best practices of integrated farming approach for evidence based policy advocacy.

Skills and Competencies

- Three years of professional experience in livelihood and food security project management with INGOs/ international agencies/local NGOs.
- A Degree in Agriculture, plus at least 5 years practical experience in implementing community based projects related to ecological farming practices and livelihoods.
- Demonstrated experience in farmer to farmer extension approach.
- Demonstrated experience in farmer based research and data analysis.
- Demonstrated experience in facilitating training/ capacity building and coaching.
- Excellent interpersonal skills and solid experience of working in partnership with local development organizations and / or community-based organizations.
- Good experience in networking and liaising with government departments, agriculture institution and other stakeholders.
- Good understanding of development approaches, including actions and instruments for addressing issues of gender and social inequality
- Strong skills in documenting learning from field experiments.
- Fluency in written and spoken English and Myanmar.
- Willingness to travel frequently to remote areas and working with farmers in the field.
- Computer literacy.

Submission of Applications

Qualified candidates should submit an application letter and a detailed C.V. by email or to the addresses below, **not later than Wednesday 1st June 2016.**

SWISSAID Myanmar Country Office, 70, Shwe Yadana Street, Ward 1, Kamayut Township, Yangon. Phone: 01-539 639, 01-516 276

Applications can be submitted by email to: swissaid.myanmar@gmail.com

Our apologies, but only candidates short-listed for interview will be contacted.