



WAGENINGEN UR
For quality of life



JOB TITLE: AGRIBUSINESS EXPERT NGETTA ZARDI

Starting date: As soon as possible

Wageningen UR Uganda is an organization supporting societal learning and innovation processes at macro, meso and micro level in Uganda involving different stakeholder groups working together on development issues.

The Integrated Seed Sector Development (ISSD) Uganda programme contributes to the development of a vibrant, pluralistic and market-oriented seed sector. The Dutch embassy funded programme works with an integrative concept towards seed sector development, bringing seed sector stakeholders together, in jointly addressing key issues hampering the development of the sector as a whole such as quality assurance, and availability of foundation seeds.

The programme has three field offices; in Abi ZARDI - West Nile, in Mbarara ZARDI - Western Uganda, and in Ngetta ZARDI - Northern Uganda. One agribusiness expert and one seed expert are based at each of the ZARDIs. In each geographical area, the programme works with 10 farmer groups i.e. strengthening them in their capacity of quality seed production and marketing of locally important crops and varieties and support them towards the development of functional local seed businesses.

Purpose of the agribusiness expert

The purpose of the agribusiness expert is to support farmer groups to become commercially sustainable local seed businesses. The focus is on developing business and marketing capacities of the farmers towards becoming professional seed entrepreneurs.

The agribusiness expert will work closely together with the ISSD seed expert, ZARDI staff, NAADS technology linkage officer, Agricultural District officer, local NGOs and other stakeholders. You will be accountable to the Kampala ISSD office (Chief of Party), through the Abi ZARDI director.

Under the supervision of the Abi ZARDI director and the ISSD Chief of Party s/he will:

- Train, coach and provide technical backstopping to farmer groups on their market orientation and business planning;
- Support farmer groups in the strengthening of their organizational capacity; training and coaching on group dynamics and business organization principles; and creating cohesion, trust and social capital;
- Work as a team with the seed expert in supporting farmer groups towards the development of Local Seed Businesses;
- Closely collaborate with ZARDI staff in supporting farmer groups towards becoming commercially sustainable seed entrepreneurs;
- Support farmer groups in the development of competitive grant proposals for seed production and marketing infrastructure;
- Mainstream gender into the development of Local Seed Businesses;
- Facilitate farmer groups to have access to research, extension, market, quality assurance and credit
- Guide and supervise MSc students in their research activities;
- Facilitate, based on the baseline, identification of opportunities for intervention strategies;
- Facilitate the translation of intervention strategies into action plans with concrete activities, targets and timeframes,

Knowledge and competences:

- Relevant post graduate academic qualifications in business administration, agribusiness or agricultural economics, with an orientation towards participatory agricultural development.
- At least three years' work experience in agri-business;

- Demonstrated ability to collaborate with small-scale farmers, and other type of stakeholder groups (across different levels);
- Affinity with capacity development and institutional change processes;
- A strong interest in linking theory with policy and practice;
- Excellent English language skills; relevant local language skills will be an added benefit;
- Ugandan nationality

Application procedure

You can find more information about ISSD Uganda on the ISSD Platform on the Uganda Agri ProFocus website <http://apf-uganda.ning.com/group/integrated-seed-sector-development-programme>

For more information about the position contact the Chief of Party on issd.uganda@gmail.com

Please send your application letter and CV to issd.uganda@gmail.com under reference of: agribusiness expert. The incoming applications will be shortlisted when and as the come and until the position is filled. No need to send academic papers at this stage. Deadline for application **28th of July 2013**