



VIETNAM COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

JOB DESCRIPTION

AGRONOMIST SPECIALIST

SOCODEVI, the *Société de coopération pour le développement international*, is a network of cooperatives and mutuals that share technical expertise and know-how with partners in developing countries in order to create, protect and distribute wealth. SOCODEVI is a Canadian not-for-profit corporation for international development established in Vietnam since 2002.

The Vietnam Cooperative Development Project is a newly Project managed by SOCODEVI and financed by the Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development (DFATD) of Canada.

WORKING PLACE: Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam with frequent travels in VCED Project provinces (Soc Trang, Ben Tre, Lam Dong, Binh Thuan and a fifth province to be specified)

DURATION: As of November 1, 2015, project duration is of 5 years, ending March 2020.

SUMMARY:

Under the supervision of the Project Director, the Agronomist Specialist is in charge of farm household's sustainable productivity improvement, agricultural products' certification, food safety and related environmental issues of an important capacity building project which expects to support five agricultural cooperatives in dairy milk and fruits value chains. This project aims to improve Vietnamese cooperative sector contribution to gender-equitable economic growth and to women and men farmers' livelihood conditions. To achieve this, VCED Project will work at three different levels:

- 1) Establishment and strengthening of sustainable agriculture cooperative enterprises in strategic value chains within the Vietnamese economy to become models of reference for scaling up;
- 2) Improvement of productivity and quality of agriculture production in a sustainable manner at the farm (household W/M) level, with value added;
- 3) Support the Government and stakeholders of the cooperative sector in the establishment of an enabling environment for the cooperative development.

The Agronomist Specialist will be in charge of the farmer household capacity building, including environmental issues, and technology transfer programs implementation in the provinces. He/She will supervise a team of four agricultural advisors based in the provinces. Through expertise, knowledge and skills transfer, he/she will provide technical expertise to its agricultural advisors team, as well as for some stakeholders already involved in farmer household productivity improvement. He/She will work in close collaboration with other specialists (Cooperative, EWM and Environment).

GENERAL DUTIES:

1. Supervise, assist and plan tasks and activities of the agricultural advisors based in the provinces;
2. Support the agricultural advisors and stakeholders based in the provinces in implementing and applying training and technology transfer programs with a farmer field school approach. The training and technology transfer programs to be implemented will also include environmental considerations related to agriculture;
3. With the agricultural advisors based in the provinces, lead the implementation, execution and monitoring of customized training, technology acquisition and implementation programs with regards to sustainable productivity improvement, certification, food safety and environment;
4. Contribute to relevant training program development and continuous improvement in sustainable productivity improvement, certification, food safety and environment;
5. Organize training events and provide guidance in the development of dairy food and fruit value chains;
6. Participate in the content of the assignments entrusted to Canadian and Vietnamese experts related to farmer household sustainable productivity improvement;
7. Host and accompany short term Canadian assistants during their assignments in Vietnam when related to farmer household sustainable productivity improvement;
8. Assist the Project Director in the yearly planning, budgeting, monitoring and reporting activities;
9. Contribute to the coordination of VCED Project team and to the carrying out of the overall project components according to the Project Implementation Plan (PIP) and annual work plans.

KNOWLEDGE AND SKILL REQUIREMENTS:

VCED Project Agronomist Specialist will demonstrate:

- Knowledge and skills in sustainable agricultural production and environmental considerations related to agriculture: expertise in horticulture and milk production will be an asset ;
- Abilities in designing, implementation and monitoring of capacity building and technology transfer programs for smallholders farmers;
- Excellent skills and experience in human resources;
- Knowledge and skills in project results-based management approach.

More specifically, knowledge, skills and abilities expected are:

- Master university degree in agronomy, agro economy or any other related field;
- A minimum of 10 years of experience in supporting smallholder farmers;
- A minimum of 5 years of experience in staff supervision;
- Knowledge and experience in project management with result-based management approach;
- Knowledge and experience in the field of training (planning, animation and evaluation), technology transfer, certification food safety and/or environment;
- Demonstrated results in bringing smallholders farmers to sustainably enhance their productivity and the quality of their products according to market needs, as well as with environmental considerations;
- Ability to establish and maintain linkages with partners / stakeholders;
- Supervision abilities, autonomy, innovation, adaptation, team building and problem solving skills;
- Excellent knowledge and skills in English communication and writing, French will be an asset;
- Excellent knowledge and skills of technology information (Windows Office, internet, others).

Please send your application (letter of interest and resume) **before September 21, 2015**, clearly specifying in the "Subject box" of your @mail: "**AGRONOMIST SPECIALIST POSITION – *With your complete name***" to the following @mail address: d.anh@socodevi.org.