



<https://jobs.eagmark.net/job/regional-program-officer-southern-africa/>

Description

Established in 2006, AGRA is an African-led and Africa-based institution that puts smallholder farmers at the center of the continent's growing economy by transforming agriculture from a solitary struggle to survive into farming as a business that thrives. Together with our partners, we are working to sustainably grow Africa's food systems.

AGRA strengthens seed systems, develops, and promotes sustainable farming practices, helps unlock trade and markets, and supports governments who lead their countries' development. We work with farmers to adapt to climate change, increase soil health, and protect the environment. AGRA believes deeply in the urgency of reducing the inequality that women face in agriculture, and to unlocking the power and innovation of youth.

To support the successful delivery of this transformation, AGRA is seeking to recruit an experienced and exceptional individual to the role of an experienced **Regional Program Officer, Southern Africa**.

Why AGRA?

At AGRA we believe Agriculture is the single greatest opportunity to deliver inclusive economic growth, jobs, and health to the African continent. An alliance led by Africans with roots in farming communities across the continent combined with an inclusive and diverse workforce from 24 nationalities. Our values of (**I-RISE**; Integrity, Respect, Innovation, Stewardship and Equity.) espouse our commitment to a call to action to go beyond ourselves as we arise and transform Africa's Agriculture.

When you join us, we present you with intellectually stimulating assignments and structured career advancement with 30% of open roles being filled internally through promotions and transfers, and a Leadership commitment for this ratio to increase. This is after setting you up for success with a World Class Onboarding for new hires where a bespoke induction trains on all aspects of the role that you will need to succeed. You will gain a full understanding of our lofty ambitions to transform African agriculture, and how you can contribute to an amazing employee experience.

We are looking for people who are passionate about Africa, curious and collaborative to join our innovative, growing, and multidisciplinary team.

Position Summary

Reporting to Head, Regional Food Trade and Resilience, the Regional Program Officer is an exciting position within AGRA's new Africa Food Trade and Resilience Initiative.

The Africa Food Trade and Resilience Initiative will include two primary strategic components:

- working with Government, business, and civil society to stimulate Africa-

**Regional
Officer,
Africa**

**Program
Southern**

Hiring organization

Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA)

Employment Type

Full-time

Industry

Agriculture

Job Location

Maputo or Nairobi, Mozambique or Kenya

specific solutions to improve the transparency and predictability of Governments' interventions to unlock investment and regional trade.

- working directly with private companies that source, process, and trade food in the region, to maximize investment, coordination, and benefits to smallholder farmers.

In each component, AGRA will collaborate closely with strategic partners who have major programs in these areas, as well as work to identify and support relevant strategic regional initiatives, with a view to maximize learning, coordination, and impact. The initiative will be expected to fully integrate resilience at all levels, including working with policy makers to integrate climate resilience considerations in their agriculture policies and interventions.

The Regional Program Officer position supports the programming, policy, markets, and resilience functions of the program in each region: Eastern, Southern and Western Africa.

Responsibilities

- Provide technical assistance and backstopping to governments through ministries of agriculture and trade to diagnose and assess, prioritize, and reform policies, laws, regulations, and administrative practices that constrain intra-regional trade.
- Identify and monitor key trade/market trends and contextual dynamics which inform issues of regional food trade policies and initiatives in and AGRA focus countries and Africa.
- Provide technical support in developing regional food value chains and market systems that expand market opportunities for farmers and strengthen market transparency and efficiency.
- Support country managers in messaging and engaging with relevant government ministries, departments, and agencies on topics of regional market systems development and agricultural growth pathways.
- Support creation and/or strengthening of integrated institutional frameworks and mechanisms for building in resilience in regional food systems movement from farm to fork.
- Utilize the latest evidence on climate smart agriculture practices, climate modeling, future climate risks to improve the resilience of agriculture food systems.
- Assist in collecting and sharing data for the program's Food Security Monitor.
- Assist country teams in development of grant proposals in the areas of policy predictability, markets shaping and resilience with respect to food trade.
- Provide technical assistance to grantees and assist in monitoring progress of implementation of Food Trade and Resilience Program grants.
- Supports the development of quarterly and annual reports and other reports, as needed, in compliance with the requirements of DFID and other partners; as well as provide regular verbal and written updates and briefings on program operations, achievements, and problems to the Head, Regional Food Trade and other program staff.
- Representing the program where necessary.

Qualifications

- Bachelor's degree in Agricultural Economics, or in a relevant discipline. A master's degree will be an added advantage.
- At least five (10) years of experience on agricultural development, food

trade and markets, economic policy and resilience/climate smart agriculture

- Demonstrated understanding of Africa's policy and political economy landscape as it relates to intra-regional food market and food trade.
- Deep knowledge of regional food trade and market systems development and the demonstrated ability to catalyze change in addressing market challenges.
- Possesses a good understanding of agriculture market development efforts in public, private and donor sectors in Africa.
- Demonstrated ability to make a major contribution to the direction of AGRA's Regional Food Trade Program strategy and to deliver its goals and objectives.
- Demonstrable ability to work in complex work dynamics and challenges. Able to adapt rapidly to new technical areas.
- Strong analytical and writing skills.

Desired Key Competencies

- Ability to develop sound project reports that can be understood by a wider stakeholder audience.
- Strong analytical, critical thinking, problem solving, programming and decision-making skills.
- Good team working skills.
- Ability to process multiple tasks at once, and with exceptional attention to detail.
- A desire to keep ahead of new and evolving discourse around policies in agriculture as well as food trade and market trends and resilience.
- Ability to move from program concept to on-the-ground reality in line with AGRA's mission.
- Good command of English required, and a working knowledge of French would be an additional advantage.

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