

Vacancy for Internship Kenya

Supporting Low-Carbon Coffee Production with a focus on implementing an intercropping strategy

Country: Kenya

Client: Kipkelion District Coffee Union

Period: May 2021 to November 2021

Deadline for application: April 5th, 2021

Number of students we need: 1

Who are we looking for?

A student with a background in tropical agroforestry, tropical agriculture or similar studies, who is interested in cooperative development, organic agriculture, agroforestry and coffee production. Preferably, the student should have knowledge in strategies for climate-smart and low-carbon agricultural practices such as intercropping in coffee production.

Context

Kipkelion district cooperative union (KDCU) was set up in 2009 and acts as an umbrella organization representing all the primary coffee cooperatives in Kericho County and the nearby Nandi, Kisumu and Bomet Counties. Its main objective is to mill and market the members' coffee. KDCU's services to their members include trainings, acting as guarantors and lobby and advocacy. They installed a milling machinery in 2011 and started receiving the first batch of coffee in the year 2012.

Currently, KDCU under an SDGP funded project is working with Agriterra, Moyee Coffee, Fairchain Foundation and KALRO in developing a Low-Carbon Coffee value chain in 6 Cooperatives. The project aims to improve the food security, climate resilience and gender equality of 7,200 coffee farming households in Kericho county, Kenya. Through direct trade and local value addition, it contributes to a fair value distribution between Kenya (producing country) and the consuming countries. The project will demonstrate a profitable business case for low-carbon coffee farming. Eventually, the project will make visible its impact through the blockchain platform. The members and management of 6 coffee cooperatives will receive advisory support through training, advice and exchange for a period of 3 years with an expected outreach: 7,200 farmers, of which 50% women.



The assignment

- As part of the low-carbon coffee project, you will oversee the implementation of an intercropping strategy by farmers from the 6 cooperatives involved in the project.
- You will also be involved in the coordination of bio-compost production at the Union bio-compost facility for distribution to primary cooperatives and farmers subsequently.
- You coordinate with the Primary Cooperative's extension officers on training of farmers on intercropping strategies.
- You will constant monitoring and re-examining of the rolled-out strategies and giving advice and recommendations on areas of improvement.
- You will periodically give reports on the progress of the project activities.
- You will prepare a report on the findings and recommendations for implementation of the intercropping strategies in low-carbon coffee farming.

In this assignment, the Dutch student will work closely together with the two Business Advisors involved in the project, together with the different partners in the consortium. 75% of the time in this assignment will involve a lot of field travel and working in remote areas.

Profile of the intern

Knowledge: Knowledge in tropical agroforestry, coffee production, climate-smart agriculture, and coffee production

Experience: Experience in working with farmers will be an added advantage

Competences: Ability to demonstrate strong planning, tracking, analytical and reporting skills. Good interpersonal skills and ability to work in a multi-cultural, multi-ethnic environment with sensitivity and respect to diversity

Language level: Good IT skills and fluency in both written and spoken English are required for this role

Application

Send your CV and a short letter of motivation to vacancy@agriterra.org to the attention of Mr C.C. (Cees) van Rij, manager agri-advice.

Agriterra, for cooperatives

We are Agriterra, a Dutch agri-agency that provides business development services to ambitious cooperatives and farmer organisations in developing and emerging economies. We assist them with advice and training through locally based business advisors and by deploying practitioners from the Dutch and international farmer organisations and (cooperative) companies; the so-called Agripool experts. We apply a three-track approach: we make cooperatives bankable and create real farmer-led companies, we support organisations to improve extension services to their members and we enhance farmer-government dialogues. Our advisory practice covers the full range of services on Management & Organisation, Financial Management, Governance, Business Development and Lobby & Advocacy.

Agriterra has local offices in 19 countries. We work with self-organising teams, so our employees are challenged to use every bit of determination, creativity and strategy to achieve our compelling goals. Being a self-organising organisation makes Agriterra an inspiring and challenging environment for professional growth and development.

Agriterra has an annual turnover of approximately 20 million euros, is ISO certified and has over 170 employees, both in the Netherlands and abroad. For more information, visit our website www.agriterra.org.