



Project manager, Aranya Agricultural Alternatives

About Aranya Agricultural Alternatives:

Aranya Agricultural Alternatives is an environmental and developmental not-profit organization providing permaculture guidance to communities, organizations, governments and other national and international agencies and creating sustainable livelihoods since 1999. At Aranya, we aim to provide alternative solutions to industrialised and chemical agricultural practices. Our projects falls mainly under the categories of Permaculture education, Natural resources management and Community empowerment, these missions interweave throughout our work. Aranya's projects constantly and consistently have an approach of identifying solutions that address both social and environmental concerns through a healthy synergy between the two. In addition, Aranya has endeavoured to bring to its stakeholders cutting edge knowledge and techniques in natural resource management (especially water) and ecological farming methods. In this entire process, it has championed the cause of community/farmers' participation (especially women) in natural resource management. We have vast experience in participatory irrigation management. Bridging the distances between community institutions and government departments has also been an important element in most of our projects. So far, we've worked with more than 2.5 lakhs farmers and ran permaculture courses for more than 400 students. Aranya has formed different farmer producer organisations (FPO) to support these FPOs for creating backward and forward linkages of their products.

This year is very special for Aranya as our organization will be hosting the International Permaculture Convergence (IPC) in November/December 2017. The IPC is happening every two years, each time in a different country and will attract more than 1000 sustainable living thinkers and practitioners in Hyderabad for seven days.

Role:

As a Project Manager, you will responsible for conducting feasibility studies to develop project proposals along with estimations of financial plans and marketing strategies. And further will play key role in establishing the approved projects from procurement, execution, establishment and operations ongoing.

Duties:

- Build up a strategy for the organization to produce quality products.
- Make the business plan adoptable by proper operational guidelines, appropriate approaches.
- Mobilize partnership with various federations and ensure proper planning and implementation of assignments as agreed upon.

- Facilitate and Coordinate with primary producers, unit staff, field staff and Aranya to ensure quality produce, supply of raw material, material requirement, pre- and post-production, market.
- Build the capacity of the team to maintain an excellent delivering system quality raw material.
- Periodically Identify, assess and empanel a list of clients that require the product and quantity requirement.
- Periodically Evaluate the capacity and strength of supported Small Producers'
- Explore opportunities for resource mobilisation from various stakeholders for supporting the unit.
- Define the roles of various value chain actors and their task and responsibilities and make them function.
- Selecting and prioritizing value chains for promotion,
- Analyze value chain technical capacities, to constantly connect with the identified potential markets.
- Promote labour intensive capabilities, utilising local materials for collecting, harvesting, drying, processing.
- Formulate upgrading strategy of the identified value chains, Tools for Value Chain Analysis using (SWOT)
- Should have potential agribusiness management skill, Risks management, Developing market linkages
- Extract key learning's from experiences of the processing unit implementation; document and periodically improve the processing of unit framework and focus, and scale up the engagements
- Facilitate in organizing periodic review meetings, and provide all necessary technical inputs to improve the set approaches.
- Facilitate in designing various base records, maintaining records and updating of records, for accountability and transparency.
- Assist in implementing with quality, ensuring proper planning, proper execution Also ensure that the funds are managed in accordance with the guidelines provided by Aranya and funding agency
- Enable effective public interface for the organization through website, social media, and brochure.
- Keep ecological considerations in mind while developing relations and in any communication.

Academic qualifications and experience:

- Post-Graduate in Marketing/Finance
- Position open to 3 to 5 years experience in relevant projects
- Personal involvement in social and environmental issues is strongly preferred

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities Required:

- Ability to take self-initiative, to be organized, to ensure that tasks are completed in a timely and resource-efficient manner.
- Peoples' orientation and the ability to work with people; Ability to work with the entire value chain actors and growers and team members
- Result-orientation and ability to develop strategic approaches

- Ability to work in small teams, and flexible ways of working and coordinate with service providers and volunteers
- Identifies problems and propose solutions.
- Demonstrates strong influencing and facilitation skills.
- Be accurate and maintain the integrity of the project.
- Ability in following the estimations, operational approaches to build supply and demand, implications, cost benefit on linkages between growers, harvesters, processing and marketing through past work experience.
- Strong communication (written and oral) skills.
- Be accurate and maintain the integrity of the project.
- Excellence in writing and designing appropriate content for various media – press, website, social media and short films
- Proficiency in English speaking, writing and editing is mandatory. Skills in Hindi and Telugu will be added advantage.
- Ability to conduct presentations and other verbal communications effectively
- Interpersonal and communication skills to work effectively with a wide range of stakeholders
- Keen observation and creativity in capturing suitable content regularly from the field / project areas for use in various communications and documentation
- Familiarity with or past experience in the ecological farming and social sector and knowledge about Permaculture will be preferred
- Commitment towards ecological conservation and social justice
- Ability to work in a team and coordinate with service providers and volunteers
- Excellent information research, database management and other computer skills

Reporting to: Aranya CEO

Duration of Contract: 12 months renewable

Date of joining: Immediate

Nature of Engagement: Full time

Remuneration: Remuneration will be mutually decided based on qualifications and experience of the candidate. It will be useful if the candidate can mention their remuneration expectation in the application.

Respond with CV and reference if available to: permanent.agriculture@gmail.com