VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Reference No: NAG/HR-0022/2021

Agronomist position for Strengthening Social Safety Net through Agriculture cash+ transfer in the dry zone

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Title</th>
<th>Strengthening Social Safety Net through Agriculture cash+ transfer in the dry zone</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Minhla Township, Magway Region, Myanmar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Position</td>
<td>Agronomist –1 post</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duration</td>
<td>The contract will be until end of December 2021 with possibility to extend</td>
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<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Min Hla Township and Magway Township, Magway Region</td>
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<tr>
<td>Applications closing date</td>
<td>As soon as possible</td>
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</table>
| How to apply  | Submit application together with “Agronomist position for Strengthening Social Safety Net through Agriculture cash+ transfer in the dry zone” in the subject line:  
1) A cover letter explaining why you would be a good fit for this role, 
2) A CV detailing relevant experience and qualifications, 
3) recent photos and contact details for two relevant references to recruitment@nagmyanmar.org |
| Note          | Only short-listed candidates will be invited for interview. Please, do not send original documents as they will not be returned. |
Strengthening Social Safety Net through Agriculture cash+ transfer in the dry zone

Funded by LIFT and project implementation by Network Activities Group (NAG), Land Core Group (LCG), Centre for Development and Environment (CDE)

Implementation Period: 1 July to 31 December 2021

Executive Summary

As part of the REAL DEV closing plan, the recovery response package is developed to support poor and vulnerable farmers in the Minhla township of the Magway region for six months starting from July 1, 2021. The COVID19 pandemics and political crisis on 1st February brings a social safety hole and crisis, which needs an immediate response for poor and smallholder farmers. Within the larger framework of resilience building as outlined in REAL DEV agreed project document, the response package will support poor and marginalized farmers to get back in their normalcy.

Objectives

The recovery package aims to strengthen socio-economic safety nets of poor, vulnerable and smallholder farmers at the time of political and economic crisis in Myanmar. Agriculture cash transfer programme is intended to have coupled effects. While it serves an immediate need of poor and marginalized communities, it provides base for productive and sustainable livelihoods diversification. The agriculture cash transfer will be reinforced by the strengthening of the farmers’ association capacity.

Specifically, the recovery package objectivizes,

- To provide agriculture cash transfer support to marginalized, poor and vulnerable farmers, farmer groups and the landless communities. This will have coupled effects. While it serves as an immediate need of poor and marginalized communities, it will also provide base for long term productive capacity and livelihoods diversifications.
- To strengthen the capacity of farmers’ association for their business plans and collective engagements. Strengthening capacity of farmers’ association is key to sustain socio-economic safety nets of poor and marginalized communities while providing them access to market for increased agriculture pricing.

Target Groups and Geographical Focus

The recovery package will be implemented in 12 villages of Minhla townships where REAL DEV project has been implemented. Besides, direct support to vulnerable, landless and smallholder farmers, the project will also support township and regional level farmers’ association to strengthen their capacity and implementation of business plan. The post distribution monitoring and the impact of the programme of this cash grant will be organized through RFDA as part of the capacity building processes.
Project Goal: Contribute towards resilience building and sustainable livelihoods of poor and vulnerable communities in Myanmar (LIFT goal)

Project outcome and outputs

OUTCOME: Strengthen Socio-economical safety nets of poor and marginalized farmers and landless households

OUTPUT 1: Provide agriculture cash+ transfer for increased agriculture based income

Activity 1.1: Support Cash for work to landless and Cash Grant for vulnerable families
Activity 1.2: Provide agriculture cash transfer to vulnerable and smallholders
Activity 1.3: Provide technical training and on-farm support
Activity 1.4: Village level revolving funds for landless

OUTPUT 2: Strengthen capacity of farmers’ association for their business plans and collective engagements

Activity 2.1: Strengthen capacity of township farmers’ association (Minhla)
Activity 2.2: Strengthen capacity of regional farmers’ development association (RFDA)
Activity 2.3: Support association for implementation of their business plan and collective engagements

Conflict sensitivity, Do No Harm and Stakeholders’ engagement

The recovery schemes will follow the principles of transparency, conflict sensitivity, Do no harm and stakeholders’ engagement in the process.
Role and Responsibility of Agronomist

1. **The Role**
   Under the direct supervision of the Project Manager, the agronomist will assist overall implementation of agriculture cash transfer activities. He/she will contribute to the facilitation of community trainings, revolving fund management and strengthening capacity of Regional Farmer Development Association (RFDA) and Township Farmer Development Association (TFDA) which include institutional capacity development, connecting to markets. He/she will play a key role in documenting and sharing project outputs and lesson learned with key stakeholders.

2. **Responsibilities**
   The key responsibilities include, but not limited to,
   - Support capacity development trainings on agriculture development, both on farm and off farm
   - Support institutionalization of land management and development committees (LDMCs)
   - Support to connect farmers with farmer associations and market
   - Provide capacity development support to Regional Farmer Development Association (RFDA) and Township Farmer Development Association (TFDA-Minhla)
   - Provide support to develop business development plan of TFDA-Minhla
   - Under the guidance of Project coordinator, manage agriculture grant support to the targeted beneficiaries
   - Support project manager on report writing, case studies, success studies and data management related to agriculture production, marketing and relevant cases
   - Provide support to manage village level revolving funds, including development of operational guidelines, micro credit training and account keeping
   - Any other activities as required

3. **Requirements**
   The ideal candidate will have the following qualifications:
   - BSc degree in agriculture with minimum five years of experiences in Myanmar. Working experiences in dry zone would be an advantage
   - Highly Analytical Skill and talent on facilitation of Strategic Plans of agriculture sector
   - Knowledge of agriculture sector in Myanmar, especially in the Dry Zone Context
   - Understanding on Agriculture transformation process and contract farming policy and business model
   - Understanding on Agriculture Development Strategy with view to improve Agriculture extension system
   - Good understanding and skills on public relation
   - Good understanding of English and Myanmar language, both written and spoken
   - Candidate from Magway region would be given priority
   - Women, and candidates from ethnic minorities would be given priority

4. **Management/Collaboration**
   Under the overall authority of Chief Executive Officer of the Network Activities Group, collaboration and guidance from the Program Manager, the Agronomist will report directly to the Project Manager. He/She will work closely with the NAG Yangon Program team as well as the LCG program team as necessary.

5. **Contract Terms**
   The contract will be until end of December 2021 (with 3-month probation period) and the possibility of extension based on project requirements and performance.
Background on the implementing organizations

Network Activities Group (NAG) works towards achieving a peaceful, prosperous and sustainably developed society that values equity and diversity. NAG facilitates social and economic development through collaborative, community-driven projects focused on empowering communities, strengthening civil society and promoting good governance. NAG works effectively across organizations, sectors and borders. Its strength is its ability to create inclusive networks and partnerships that ensure the self-determined needs of poor and vulnerable communities are met.

Land Core Group (LCG) is a not-for-profit organization promoting fair and equitable land governance in Myanmar. LCG works with civil society to reform policy, law and procedures that impact people’s rights to their land – particularly women and men smallholders and indigenous communities – and promote implementation of equitable aspects of the law.

The Centre for Development and Environment (CDE) is an interdisciplinary research centre of the University of Bern, in Switzerland. CDE’s overarching goal is to produce and share knowledge for sustainable development. CDE conducts research to develop innovative concepts and solutions for the sustainable use of land and water resources, and offers a range of services for planners and decision-makers that are closely linked to research.