



CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

Position: WASSD Program Coordinator
Type of contract: International
Reference: 09/PM/2024
Location: Dakar (Senegal) with continental mobility
Opening date: 25/11/2024
Closing Date: 16/12/2024

Observations: Recruitment pending program launch

About CORAF and the Program

The West and Central Africa Council for Agricultural Research and Development (CORAF) was founded in 1987. CORAF (www.coraf.org) currently brings together the National Agricultural Research Systems (NARS) of 23 West and Central African countries: Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo. The vision of CORAF in its Strategic Plan 2018-2027 is a future where people and communities in West and Central Africa will achieve food and nutrition security and are prosperous. Its mission is to ensure sustainable improvement to the productivity, competitiveness, and markets of the agricultural system in WCA.

To achieve the goals of socio-economic development and people's well-being, African agriculture must significantly improve its productivity while maintaining the sustainability of diversified and quality agri-food systems.

High yield gap, estimated at 75% of potential yield and low average growth rate for most agricultural products (lower than the 6% target set by the Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Programme or CAADP) are worrying, given the substantial investments made in the sector over the last 10 to 15 years.

Limited availability of agricultural inputs, inadequate distribution networks in isolated communities, poor quality and counterfeit seeds, as well as high prices for certified seeds and inputs are ongoing challenges in West Africa and major barriers to agricultural productivity and growth. To address these shortcomings, donors and West African governments have been working through the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and other regional bodies to develop and operationalize consistent quality control procedures, strengthen seed systems and make trade in inputs easier, faster and cheaper.

ECOWAS has received financial support from USAID/West Africa for the development of a regional agricultural input strategy (RAIS). CORAF has developed on behalf of ECOWAS/CILSS/UEMOA the strategy that outlines an integrated approach to increase agricultural inputs, including seeds, crops, livestock and aquaculture. As part of the implementation of the strategy, CORAF designated as the technical secretariat has received funding for the implementation of the West Africa Seed Sector Development Programme (WASSD). The project aims to increase the availability and access to quality seeds, improve yields and food security, while strengthening the private sector and political environment.

The overall objective of the Seed Sector Development Programme in West Africa (WASSD) is to improve agricultural productivity through improved access for farmers to greater use of improved agricultural inputs and technologies provided by private sector companies in West-Africa, and a collaborative engagement with a multitude of regional and national organizations and associations.

Job title	
As part of the implementation of the Program, CORAF is seeking a Program Coordinator (M/W).	
Mission	
<p>Main Mission: Under the direct supervision of the Director of Research and Innovation, the WASSD Program Coordinator will be responsible for the day-to-day management of the program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Serve as the main point of contact with USAID, ensuring managerial and technical oversight, consistency, robustness, timeliness and cost-effectiveness of interventions to achieve program objectives; • Work closely and foster effective collaboration between project partners from several institutions, including the National Agricultural Research Systems, Donors and other affiliated organizations involved in the implementation of the programme, as well as the professional and support staff of the CORAF Executive Secretariat; • Participate in advocacy and resource mobilization, and ensure effective overall contract management and quality assurance; • Coordinate cost-effective and high-impact planning meetings and training workshops, monitor and evaluate progress towards project milestones as well as timely submission of quality reports to USAID and other partners; • Serve as a point of contact with donors; • Perform other tasks that may be assigned by the supervisor. 	
Profile	
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PhD in Agricultural Sciences or related field (e.g., agronomy, agricultural economics, livestock production system, etc.).
Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Minimum of ten (10) years' experience in managing technology scaling programs through the exercise of a leadership capacity of at least 5 years in an executive position in an international, multidisciplinary and intercultural environment; ▪ At least ten (10) years of experience interacting with donors, public services and non-governmental organizations; ▪ Minimum of five (05) years' experience in mobilizing policy makers; ▪ Minimum of five (05) years' experience in business development and livestock systems analysis ▪ Minimum of five (05) years' experience in RBM; ▪ Minimum of five (5) years' experience in a multicultural environment.
Soft skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Humility; ▪ Courtesy; ▪ Ability to work under pressure; ▪ Discretion; ▪ Be methodical; ▪ Organizational capacity; ▪ Team spirit; ▪ Adaptability; ▪ Integrity; ▪ Sense of priorities; ▪ Ability to listen; ▪ Analytical capacity; ▪ Ability to anticipate; ▪ Responsiveness.
Software	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Word ; ▪ Excel ; ▪ PowerPoint ; ▪ Access ;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Outlook.
Languages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Bilingual (French-English) both orally and in writing
Mobility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ On the Continent
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ability to write and edit scientific literature and/or documentation.
Application procedures	
Application Package	<p>It must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A cover letter addressed to the Executive Director, Dakar, Senegal. The file should be named as follows: Initial of first name +Last in mask_LM. For example, ADIALLO_LM); ▪ A detailed CV, with the names and contacts of three mandatory references (e-mail, address, and telephone). The CV file should be named as follows: Initial of first name +Last name in caps_CV_month and year. For example, ADIALLO_CV March 2024.
Contact	Applications should be sent to Youmann Executive Search
Deadline for submission	16/12/2024 at 11:59 PM

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for an interview