JOB VACANCY – Agroecology Coalition Coordinator

Current food and agricultural systems face major environmental, climate and health challenges, while struggling to respond to the challenges of food and nutrition security. The Coalition for food systems’ transformation through agroecology (Agroecology Coalition or AE Coalition for short) was created in 2021 at the margins of the UN Food Systems Summit in order to address these multiple challenges and accelerate food systems’ transformation. The Coalition includes 39 countries and 73 organizations, including UN agencies, farmers’ organizations, indigenous organizations, civil society organizations, research organizations, and philanthropies (for a full list of members see https://agroecology-coalition.org/).

Role

The Agroecology Coalition is looking for a Coordinator to head its secretariat in Rome. The Secretariat of the AE Coalition is hosted by Bioversity International¹ in Rome, but operates independently. The Agroecology Coalition Coordinator will report to the Agroecology Coalition Steering Group (SG)

Key responsibilities:

• Supporting the SG in developing a strategy and work plan for the coalition;
• Developing documents for discussion/approval by the SG;
• Developing an annual workplan and budget for Coalition secretariat for approval by the SG;
• Implementing the various activities of the Coalition workplan, including: coordinating and supporting Coalition working groups in their activities; facilitating peer-to-peer learning and knowledge sharing among the different members of the Coalition; regularly updating the SG and full Coalition membership on the development of various initiatives; and regularly updating the action plan;
• Planning, organizing and facilitating regular meetings of the SG and the full membership of the AE Coalition, including follow-up reporting & task allocation;
• Recruiting and supervising Secretariat staff;
• Acting as an ambassador for the Coalition, including: organizing public events and representing the AE Coalition as mandated by the SG; communicating the Coalition’s mission to external stakeholders; liaising with other Coalition secretariats / focal points to identify possible synergies and common actions; exploring new alliances and partnerships;
• Managing and expanding Coalition membership;

¹ Bioversity International is an international Research Centre. For further information on Bioversity International, consult the website at https://alliancebioversityciat.org/
• Seeking financial support for the secretariat from Coalition members and potential donors; maintaining positive relationships with existing donors; and drafting annual activity reports;
• Interacting with the host organization to ensure the smooth administration of the secretariat.

Requirements:
• Excellent working knowledge of agroecology;
• Minimum 8 years’ experience in coordination of collaborative work programmes relating to agroecology and sustainable food systems;
• PhD level qualification or equivalent experience in a relevant field (e.g. Agricultural Sciences, Food System-related topics, Development Studies, Environmental Science);
• Familiarity with relevant global policy debates (e.g. on food security, climate change, biodiversity, sustainable development);
• Fluency in written and spoken English, and working knowledge of French or Spanish;
• Excellent interpersonal skills;
• Proven ability to develop strong working relationships with people/partners from different cultures, backgrounds and sectors;
• Proven ability to develop strategies and to work autonomously on delivering them;
• Proven ability to prioritize a range of different tasks under time pressure;
• Personal and professional commitment to sustainability.

Desirable:
• Familiarity with the AE coalition;
• Proficiency/fluency in other languages (esp. Spanish and French).

Terms and Conditions
This is an internationally recruited position. The salary is level 10, in a scale of 14 levels, with level 14 being the highest. Bioversity International offers an attractive remuneration package including a competitive salary, non-contributory retirement plan, medical insurance, housing allowance and leave provisions. All benefits are denominated and paid in US dollars. The initial contract will be for a period of 2 years, subject to a probationary period of 6 months, and is renewable based on performance and availability of funds.

Applications
Please apply online through the website no later than 21 October 2022, attaching a letter of application with names and email addresses of at least three referees, and a curriculum vitae, both in English. Please note that only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

Closing date for applications: 21 October 2022

We invite you to learn more about us at:  
https://agroecology-coalition.org/ 
Please visit the careers page at:  
https://alliancebioversityciat.org/careers