

In this issue of the RUAF UPDATE just two messages:

1. call for a Workshop cum study visit on "Micro-farming and HIV-Aids" in Southern Africa
2. job announcement ETC-Urban Agriculture

1. WORKSHOP MICRO FARMING AND HIV- AIDS

ETC-Urban Agriculture in cooperation with Abalimi Bezekhaya (Cape Town) and with financial support of CTA (the Netherlands) are organizing a study visit cum workshop in South Africa (Johannesburg and Cape Town) on "Micro-farming and HIV-Aids" that will take place in August 2005.

We are most interested to get acquainted with persons and organisations that have hands on experience with urban and peri-urban agricultural projects that seek to enhance food security and nutrition of families affected by HIV-Aids in one of the countries of Southern Africa as well as researchers or health officers that have studied the impacts of such projects.

We kindly invite you to write to the workshop organizer (h.dezeeuw@etcnl.nl) if you have such experiences or could make us aware of name and address of persons having such experience.

About 25 persons/organisations will be invited to participate in the study visit/workshop and to share their experiences.

2. JOB ANNOUNCEMENT ETC FOUNDATION

SENIOR CONSULTANT URBAN AGRICULTURE (M/F)

The Urban Agriculture Unit of ETC Foundation is looking for a new senior team member.

ETC Foundation is a not-for profit development and advisory organisation. It's main office is based in Leusden, the Netherlands and (independently managed) regional and country offices are located in Kenya (East Africa), Peru (Andes), India, Sri Lanka and the UK.

ETC's approach is characterised by process-based, participatory and gender-positive working methods that build on local initiatives and knowledge, facilitate multi-stakeholder social learning and contribute to local capacity development, sustainable innovations and poverty alleviation.

ETC Foundation has 30 years of experience in advising national and local governments, NGO's, universities, farmer organisations and private enterprises in a large number of developing countries (as well as in Holland and Eastern Europe) on sustainable development and innovation, human resource development and institution building, transition to ecological farming, participatory agricultural research and extension, farmer organisation, sustainable energy, public health, a/o. Involved in the field of urban agriculture since 1994 and co-founder of the Global Support Group on Urban Agriculture (SGUA).

ETC-Urban Agriculture is one of five Leusden based units of the ETC-Foundation and at present is formed by 3 senior consultants and 3 programme assistants.

ETC-Urban Agriculture focuses on the following three strategic themes:

- (a) Urban agriculture, poverty alleviation and local economic development (with special attention for women and youth)

- (b) Urban food systems, food security and nutrition (including link with HIV-Aids)
- (c) Agriculture in urban planning and management (productive urban landscapes / edible building, multi-functional peri-urban agriculture)

The services of ETC-Urban Agriculture include:

- o Institutional strengthening of partner organisations and networks
- o Capacity development and training (development of training materials, organisation of training workshops, distance learning, exchange visits)

- o Policy analysis and advocacy (fact sheets, policy papers, policy seminars, study visits)
- o Support to local multi-stakeholder processes for situation analysis, policy design and collaborative action planning on urban agriculture

- o Applied research; Monitoring and evaluation studies
- o Gender analysis and mainstreaming
- o Information, communication and knowledge management (maintenance of databases, publications o/a the Urban Agriculture Magazine, RUAF-website).

See for more information www.etc-group.org and www.ruaf.org.

Main tasks:

The consultant will be responsible for:

- Expertise and product development in one or more of the above mentioned strategic themes
- Design, coordination and implementation of advisory, training, applied research and information support activities in close coordination with Southern partner organisations of ETC-UA

- Regular progress and financial reporting on assignments and projects in coordination with the Coordinator of ETC-UA and the ETC financial department

- Maintaining good working relations with donor agencies and other sources of funding and identification of innovative financing strategies and possibilities

- Periodic sharing of experiences with colleagues in ETC-UA and with other units and offices of ETC-Foundation and contributions to the coaching and education of junior staff.

- Contribution to further development of the development strategy of ETC-UA

Requirements

- At least ten years of experience in development cooperation
- Strong affinity with urban agriculture and specific expertise in one or more of the following fields: (urban) planning and management, (urban) food security and nutrition, (urban) tropical agriculture and livestock husbandry; (urban) sustainable resource management

- MSc or equivalent/higher education in one of the abovementioned fields
- Familiar with participatory and multi-stakeholder approaches in research, training, planning and monitoring; Gender sensitive

- Proven ability to operate as an individual advisor and trainer in developing countries
- Strong network and contacts with donor agencies; proven ability for funding leverage
- Resistant to stress, creative, good sense of humour, capable of working in a team as well as independently
- Availability to travel to a variety of countries for short missions
- Fluent in English; Good working knowledge of French, Spanish and/or Arabic is an advantage

- Extensive computer skills (Word for windows, Excel, Access, Internet, etcetera)
- The candidate should be in the possession of an European work and staying permit

Labour Conditions

- A 50%-100 % contract (to be negotiated) with a probationary period of six months.
- Gross salary, depending the level of education and experience, between Euro 2750 and Euro 3950 (full time) depending education and experience with an additional 8% holiday allowance and substantial employer contribution to the pension scheme.
- Based in Leusden, the Netherlands or willing to be regularly present in Leusden for extended periods

Information

More detailed information can be obtained from the coordinator of ETC-Urban agriculture:
Ir Henk de Zeeuw (h.dezeeuw@etcnl.nl; tel: +31-33- 4326000)

Application

Please send your application (in English and clearly responding to each of the requirements) with curriculum vitae to:

Ir. H. de Zeeuw
ETC-Urban Agriculture
P.O. Box 64, 3830 AB Leusden, the Netherlands

Ir Henk de Zeeuw

Coordinator Resource centre on Urban Agriculture and Forestry (RUAF)

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