(for immediate release)

JOB DESCRIPTION

TASAI COORDINATOR FOR EAST AND SOUTHERN AFRICA

Market Matters Inc. (MM Inc.) invites applications for the position of Coordinator of The African Seed Access Index (TASAI) in East and Southern Africa.

ABOUT TASAI

The African Seed Access Index (TASAI) is a project developed and coordinated by Market Matters Inc., a nonprofit, international development organization. Started in 2013, TASAI is a project developed and coordinated by Market Matters Inc., a nonprofit, international development organization. TASAI monitors the development and competitiveness of national seed sectors in African countries. The central objective of TASAI is to encourage African governments and development agencies to create and maintain enabling environments that will accelerate the development of formal seed systems serving smallholder farmers. The index covers 20 indicators that are divided into the following five broad categories: Research and Development, Industry Competitiveness, Service to Smallholder Farmers, Policy and Regulations, and Institutional Support. The TASAI work has been conducted in 13 African countries, and is expanding to an additional 10 countries. More information about TASAI is available online at www.tasai.org.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

The TASAI East and Southern Africa Coordinator will oversee TASAI’s research and dissemination activities across East and Southern African countries, including – Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe. S/he will report to the TASAI Program Coordinator and will work in close collaboration with the entire TASAI team.

TASAI works with Country Research Teams (CRT) to collect data; members of the CRTs are seed industry experts (at least 2 per country) who are recruited by Market Matters Inc. as independent consultants to collect data and draft reports. The TASAI East and Southern Africa Coordinator will oversee the work of these consulting teams, namely:

1. **Train TASAI country researchers**: The Coordinator, along with other TASAI core staff, will train country researchers in the TASAI methodology.
2. **Oversee and supervise the TASAI CRTs using frequent communication by email, phone, or in person**, to ensure that:
   a. CRTs are using TASAI methodology correctly;
   b. The data collected is of the highest quality;
   c. The data collected is complete and meets the requirements set out in the agreements signed by CRTs;
   d. Field work is completed on time.
3. **Review TASAI reports**: Provide comprehensive and critical reviews of all the outputs submitted by the country researchers.
4. **Representation in seed sector meetings**: Represent TASAI in relevant seed industry meetings in the target countries across East and Southern Africa.
5. **Advocacy and industry engagement:** In collaboration with country stakeholders, use TASAI findings to inform policy and industry reforms in the target countries.

**KEY QUALIFICATIONS**

a. Comprehensive understanding of formal seed systems, with at least five years of work experience in the seed sector in East and Southern Africa.

b. Fluency and proficiency (in speech and writing) in English. Knowledge of French is a bonus, but not a requirement.

c. Excellence in communication (speaking and writing) and leadership skills.

d. Strong orientation to detail, quantitative analysis, and problem solving.

e. Advanced degree (Master’s or Doctorate) in one of the Agricultural Sciences.

f. Ability and willingness to travel across East and Southern Africa.

**ABOUT MARKET MATTERS**

[Market Matters Inc.](#) is an independent, nonprofit, international development organization. Founded in 2003, MM Inc. works with small and medium-size enterprises (SMEs) in emerging markets, primarily in Sub-Saharan Africa and to a lesser extent in Asia. MM Inc.’s headquarters are in Ithaca, NY (USA), and it has a regional office in Nairobi, Kenya. The organization’s mission is to improve the marketing and product strategies of small-to-medium size firms in emerging markets so they can make a greater contribution to the standard of living in their respective communities.

**SALARY:** Competitive salary and benefits commensurate with qualifications and experience. An attractive fringe benefit package is included.

**APPLICATION:** Application materials should be submitted electronically to the attention of Program Coordinator at admin@tasai.org. The application package should include:

- A Cover Letter detailing the applicant’s motivation to apply for the position;
- An updated curriculum vita;
- Writing sample, where the applicant is the lead author;
- Names and contact details of three references.

Review of applications will begin on 20th June 2018 and continue until the position is filled.