

As an international cooperation enterprise for sustainable development with worldwide operations, the German government owned Deutsche Gesellschaft fuer Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH operates on behalf of German Ministries, the governments of other countries and international clients. GIZ has a record of more than 60 years working in Thailand. For the Building a Climate Resilient Potato Supply Chain through a Whole-farm Approach project we are currently looking for a Field Extensionist

Field Extensionist

Climate change is threatening the livelihoods of farmers in Thailand at an increasing rate. In 2012, the International Centre for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT) conducted a study that estimated the total economic impact of climate change to the agriculture sector to be between US\$300 million and US\$420 million and yields of major crops, such as rice and maize to fall by at least 3.6 percent by 2050. Farmers are having to navigate changing and more extreme weather patterns, further increasing risks and testing resilience of their land, businesses and communities. This pressure makes the sector less attractive to new investment and talent, while also exacerbating environmental degradation through suboptimal use of mineral fertilizers and synthetic crop protection chemicals and farming practices that reduce biodiversity and deplete soils and water sources.

In response to these challenges, PepsiCo and GIZ have initiated a three-year public private partnership (develoPPP) from October 2021 to September 2024. The objective is “*the climate resilience of potato farmers in Northern Thailand (Chiang Mai and Chiang Rai) is strengthened*”. To achieve this, the project leverages a farmer-centered design to build a multi-stakeholder and year-round solution to accelerate adaptation and mitigation efforts while increasing market linkages and developing community adaptive capacity.

The project will deliver activities in partnership with local and national governments, agricultural input providers (providers of inputs like fertilizers, pesticides, farming machinery and tools, seeds, etc.), agronomic advisors, rotational crop off-takers and community groups across three levels:

- **Crop Focused:** Introduce key climate change adaptation and mitigation actions for potato that will both increase yields and efficiency and reduce the carbon footprint of potato production, such as drip irrigation, integrated pest management and higher seed rate.
- **Whole Farm:** Build partnerships to develop a climate-resilient crop rotation approach for rice and maize and provide technical assistance outside of the potato season to influence adoption of best practices at the farm level such as compost from crop residue, and fertilizer management.

- **Community Centered:** Build demonstration farms, managed by lead farmers that are well respected in the local communities and that host farmer field schools in potato, rice and maize throughout the year. Additionally, facilitate farmer business trainings to provide training on farm economics and access to information, inputs and other services. The farmer field school training will be gender inclusive.
- **Regenerative and climate-smart practices:** Disseminate knowledge, educate, and demonstrate sustainable agricultural practices that have both positive impacts on soil health and on the climate resilience of farmers; certain practices also reduce GHG emissions from agriculture. Such practices may include for example optimized crop rotation, IPM, fertilizer management, drip irrigation management, alternative wetting and drying for rice, straw, and stubble management, composting and others.

I Objectives of the assignment

Overall objective of this assignment is to provide technical support and perform agricultural extension for the project implementation, monitoring and reporting of project activities to ensure compliance with the project plan and ensure close collaboration between the project management, partners and other relevant local stakeholders in the project sites. Part of the objective is to carry out activities which facilitate: 1) project implementation to ensure the project operates properly and successfully, 2) project coordination with local relevant stakeholders (farmers, local authorities, and other related partners), 3) technical management of experts in the project.

This will allow:

- To do capacity work for project farmers, especially to sustainable rice production, GAP in Maize production, and sustainable potato production.
- To facilitate and provide technical support for the operational of the field activities (sustainable rice production, GAP in maize, crop rotation, and land use and restoration activities and sustainable forest, ecosystems and biodiversity and land management)
- To coordinate and organize the project activities with other relevant local partners
- To do data collection and compilation of local information on the rice production system and other supporting data as a baseline
- To advise on strategies/practices for the sustainable rice production and GAP in Maize, and (sustainable rice production, GAP in maize, crop rotation, and land use and restoration activities and sustainable forest, ecosystems and biodiversity and land management)
- To assist the project implementation guided by project manager.

II Scope of the assignment

The main role of the field extensionist is to perform project activities in the province level, which focus on farmer training in sustainable rice production and, GAP in Maize production. Specifically, the field extensionist will complete the following tasks:

1. Management responsibility
 - a. To be responsible for the orders and measures in the farmer training component that are assigned to him/her and to facilitate the successful project implementation in the province level.
2. Professional advisory services
 - a. To set-up, facilitate, and execute the training activities in the area, with joint coordination with related participants and local stakeholders
 - b. To monitor the field activities, provide reports and documents on the progress of local activities, identifies bottlenecks and recommends alternative solution options
 - c. To implement quality assurance measures and suggests necessary changes, improvements, and initiatives
 - d. To be actively supply input of possible improvement of planned activities
3. Networking and cooperation
 - a. To establish good relationship with local partners in the areas e.g. millers, farmer groups, collectors, local government, etc.
 - b. To communicate and promote the project's interests and exchanges ideas and information for the benefit of the project
 - c. To collect relevant information from the field on the rice production system, maize production system and other supporting data for project monitoring (i.e.: farmer database, miller database, etc.)
4. Knowledge management
 - a. To contribute to develop strategies and technical concepts to improve the project implementation
 - b. To draw up progress reports and presentation documents as well as any other reports requested by project manager.
5. Other duties/additional tasks
 - a. To perform other duties and tasks given by the project manager
 - b. To carry out tasks relevant to the project assigned by project manager which may not be explicitly mentioned in the ToR.

III Experience and qualification

- University degree in Agriculture, Agronomy, Food Systems, Land Use Planning Land Management or Environmental Sciences or related fields
- A minimum of 3 years' experience in the designing and planning of integrated landscape management plans, implementation of agricultural, rice/maize crop diversification, natural resources management projects at small and medium scale in the field.) High experience is also welcomed and more appreciated.
- Experience working with local communities and with female producers, youth etc.
- Experience of planning and reporting on international funded projects and with facilitation of multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder development processes
- Good organizational capacity
- Good computer skills in common word processing (MS Word), spread sheet (MS Excel)
- Appropriate English and Thai language skills, both spoken and written.
- Strong interpersonal and communication, reporting and presentation skills.

IV Duration, location and nature of appointment

The field extensionist will be in the northern part of Thailand sites (Chiang Mai and Chiang Rai). He/she will work from the GIZ field office in one of the selected sites in Chiang Mai and travel as required in the basin and in the wider area. The Field extensionist will report to and be guided by project manager to ensure the project achieves its goals and ensure cost effectiveness and sustainability. During the assignment, formal report should be prepared monthly and submitted to project manager.

Contract:

This will be a fixed-term contract starting as soon as possible and running until December 2023 with high possibility of extension.

Application:

Please submit your application and CV to chattayada.pattaragulwanit@giz.de. The deadline for applications is 30 November 2022. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted. GIZ Thailand is an equal opportunity employer and actively encourages gender diversity within the company and operations.

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