**JOB DESCRIPTION**

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| **JD Unique ID:** |  |
| **Job Title:** | **Associate Project Officer – Value Chain & Market Linkage** |
| **Project Title:** | Growing Together: Women’s Economic Growth through Integrated Agroecological Farming Systems Project |
| **Company:** | United Purpose |
| **Location:** | Jamalpur/ Gopalganj |
| **Contract type:** | Regular subject to funding from donor |
| **Hours:** | Full time |
| **Reports to:** | M & E Specialist cum Assistant Project Manager |
| **Grade:** | V |
| **Salary Range:** | Max BDT 38,326.00 Per Month including All Fringe Benefit |
| **Organisation overview:** | Self Help Africa (SHA) and United Purpose (UP) merged in late 2021 to implement projects to end extreme hunger and poverty in sub-Saharan Africa. The merger doubled its size and reach, with SHA implementing poverty eradication projects in sub-Saharan Africa in 2022. The group includes social enterprise subsidiaries Partner Africa, TruTrade, and Cumo Microfinance. In 2022, SHA will reach over six million people and invest €45m in over 100 development programs to improve food systems, access to markets, financial services, climate change, gender inequality, and access to clean water, sanitation, and hygiene. |
| **Job Purpose:** | United Purpose's "Growing Together: Women’s Economic Growth through Integrated Agroecological Farming Systems" project, funded by the Coca-Cola Foundation, aims to empower women entrepreneurs in Bangladesh by building partnerships among Women's Business Centres (WBCs), local and national governments, and consumers. The initiative addresses systemic barriers such as limited investment capital, regulatory support, climate change, food insecurity, and health challenges. It focuses on introducing green enterprise opportunities, enhancing coordination with the Government of Bangladesh on social protection, and sustaining the Women Business Center (WBC) network **"Nari Jhuri."** By employing a market-based approach and human-centred design, the project improves livelihoods for women and smallholder farmers, builds skills for circular economy activities, and integrates WBCs with government social protection schemes.  **The following will be the overall responsibility of the role:**  Increased production and yields through transfer of knowledge, skills and technologies in poultry & livestock value chains based on agroecological farming systems.   * Scaling up on Native chicken production and marketing by women producers in Poultry sector: * Capacity building on entrepreneurship and Business planning * Improved financial access for Women/Smallholder producers through community-led saving and credit cooperatives at Union level. |
| **Key Responsibilities:** | **Key responsibilities include (not limited to):**   * Facilitate Technical Training on poultry enterprises (hatching, egg production, feed production, vaccination, 100 birds’ poultry unit at homestead level) to WBC entrepreneurs and leaders of Union level poultry producers’ cooperatives. * Establish Micro hatcheries at the Union level federation of poultry producers to sell day old/one week old chicks and ensure fertile eggs are available for the incubators through the fertile egg production unit for native chicken. * Working capital support to 4 union federation to ensure quality feeds supply including Black soldier fly as protein source. * Piloting the Black soldier fly production as protein enriched poultry feeds and link with native chicken production. * Ensure vaccination services by WBCs to individual poultry/ duck producers. * Establish and Support Poultry Processing Enterprises and unit. * Establish Union-Level Product-Centric Extension Services in coordination with WBCs entrepreneurs. * Developing and printing technical manuals for poultry producers and entrepreneurs. * Facilitate Technical training (biogas, feeds, apps use, vaccination, treatment and promotion) in livestock enterprises to WBC entrepreneurs. * Formation of Union level livestock producers’ cooperatives to enable collective purchasing, marketing, and resource-sharing among WBC entrepreneurs/smallholder farmers. Union-level federations will provide product-based extension services and connect with Pranisebha social enterprise for the services required by the livestock producers. * Ensure quality Livestock feeds and promote production of fodder by smallholder farmers to minimise dependence on purchased feed. * Ensure maintenance of livestock health records to track vaccinations, treatments, and overall animal health and facilitate Linkage with Pranisheba to facilitate insurance and access to loan for the livestock beneficiaries. * Training on sustainable waste management (composting and biogas,) practices   **Others:**  Consistently monitor the safety and security of field teams, report concerns to UP management, liaise with relevant parties to maintain security, and perform any other duties assigned by the supervisor to support UP programmes. |
| **Key Relationships:** | **Internal:** Project Lead,Country Finance Manager**,** M&E Specialist, APO-Business & Finance, PO - Value Chain & Market Linkage, and the project’s relevant staff of the Country Office.  **External:** District and Upazila levels local Government authorities, relevant GOB line departments, private sectors, project beneficiaries, local communities and other stakeholders. |
| **Knowledge, Experience and Other Requirements** | **Educational Requirements**  Diploma in animal husbandry /related discipline from recognised technical institution. Having marketing and technical knowledge of livestock will be given preference.  **Experience Requirements**   * Minimum 2 year(s) relevant experience * The applicants should have experience in poultry mini hatchery operation, marketing of chicks of smallholder farmers and women entrepreneurs.   **Language Requirements:**   * Proficiency in written and spoken English and Bangla   **Job Requirements**   * Strong knowledge and skills of value chain (poultry, livestock and agro-ecological products etc), social enterprise development and marketing. * Clear knowledge about operation poultry hatchery, small business plan and financial management of a business. * Strong understanding of women’s economic empowerment, gender, and social inclusion. * Ability to communicate with people from different cultures and time zones. * Proficiency in MS Office |
| **Application Procedure:** | You can apply for the position by completing the [application form](https://docs.google.com/document/d/124ALrE7EN1T1GjSm-p7v3LqipvTKt2Jb/edit?usp=drive_link&ouid=115367550417460941452&rtpof=true&sd=true) and upload it following the link [here](https://selfhelpafrica.org/ie/careers-apply/?jbcd=500QD00000JkCzK%20-%20Associate%20Project%20Officer%20%E2%80%93). Please upload your CV & cover letter alongside.    **Application to be submitted by 24 August 2024.** |

*All candidates offered a job with Self Help Africa/United Purpose will be expected to sign our Safeguarding Policies and Code of Conduct as an appendix to their contract of employment and agree to conduct themselves in accordance with the provisions of these documents. Specific roles may require Police/DBS/ [relevant police authority] vetting.*

**Self Help Africa/United Purpose strive to be an equal opportunities employer.**