**JOB DESCRIPTION**

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| **JD Unique ID:** | **65186** |
| **Job Title:** | Research Intern |
| **Company:** | Self Help Africa |
| **Location:** | Makurdi, Benue State |
| **Contract type:** | Local Recruitment, Fixed term contract, full-time |
| **Period** | 12 months |
| **Reports to:** | **Project Coordinator** |
| **Organisation overview:** | **About Self Help Africa**  Self Help Africa (SHA) is an international development organisation headquartered in Dublin, Ireland and dedicated to the vision of ‘*Sustainable livelihoods and healthy lives for all in a changing climate’*. We have over 50 years of experience working in Africa, including 25 years in Nigeria (formerly as United Purpose and Concern Universal).  In 2021, Self Help Africa merged with United Purpose (UP), doubling our size. The organisation now works in 17 programme countries. 15 of these are in sub-Saharan Africa while subsidiary organisations, ‘Self Help Brazil’ and ‘Self Help Bangladesh’, have been created for our programmes in the two countries where we are working outside of Africa.  In early 2023, we launched a new five-year organisation strategy, which defines shared mission as the alleviation of hunger, poverty, social inequality and the impact of climate change through community-led, market-based and enterprise- focused approaches, so that people can have access to nutritious food, clean water, decent employment and incomes, while sustaining natural resources.  Our wider organisation also includes social enterprise subsidiaries: Partner Africa - which provides ethical auditing and consultancy services, TruTrade - an innovative trading platform in East Africa, and CUMO - Malawi’s largest micro-finance provider.  Our three core values are: ▪ **Impact:** We are accountable, ambitious and committed to systemic change. ▪ **Innovation:** We are agile, creative and enterprising in an ever-changing world. ▪ **Community:** We are inclusive, honest and have integrity in our relationships.  To achieve our organisational mission, we work across sectors, such as Agriculture, Climate & Environment, Enterprise, Energy, Nutrition and WASH. |
| **Programme Description:** | The Fragile SAN project is an 18 months learning project with the goal to develop and widely share an adapted approach and ‘toolbox’ of scalable solutions to Area Wide Sanitation (AWS) in fragile and conflict-affected areas in Nigeria. The approach is based on refinement and evaluation of an approach previously innovated by Self Help Africa/United Purpose (SHA/UP) in Nigeria—the ‘WASH Security Response Plan’—incorporating additional elements such as market-based sanitation (MBS) and wider systems strengthening, aiming to achieve AWS outcomes within LGAs affected by conflict and internally displaced communities. The approach and scalable solutions will be shared widely with sector players within Nigeria and globally, with the hope that these learnings and adaptations will be adopted and further adapted by different actors to reduce the barriers of AWS efforts in fragile communities. The project will focus on achieving the following specific objectives:  **Objective 1**: Learnings from effective approaches to AWS in fragile contexts in Nigeria and beyond are harvested and integrated within action research piloting.  **Objective 2:** An appropriate, inclusive, and effective approach to AWS (including CLTS and MBS) in fragile contexts is evolved and tested in Benue State, Nigeria  **Objective 3**: Learnings documented, and guidance developed on AWS in fragile contexts and shared for uptake within Nigeria and beyond. |
| **Job Purpose:** | SHA is seeking for a highly motivated young researcher with excellent writing skills to take up the role of a research intern.  The Research Intern will be responsible for undertaking literature/desk reviews in the area of Area Wide Sanitation (AWS), Sanitation in Fragile context, Conflict sensitive programming etc. and scoping for adaptable approaches from within and outside Nigeria which will feed into the action learning pilot and also, into the overall toolbox of approaches the project seeks to produce at the end.  The research intern will also be responsible to producing the first drafts of donor report, documenting the ongoing learning outcomes of the project, producing case studies, drafting of the final toolbox and supporting the MEL Coordinator in undertaking project surveys including the endline survey.  This role will provide an opportunity to a young research enthusiast to develop and horn their research skills by working on this intensive and practical research project with global experts like the Water Sanitation and Hygiene Partnerships and Learning for Sustainability (WASHPaLS) team and the Sanitation Learning Hub (SLH) at Institute for Development Studies, University of Sussex. |
| **Key Responsibilities:** | **Literature Review and Analysis:**   * Conduct comprehensive literature and desk reviews on AWS, Sanitation in Fragile contexts, and Conflict-sensitive programming. * Synthesize findings from literature reviews to identify key trends, gaps, and emerging best practices. * Analyse and interpret data from literature sources to inform project strategies and approaches.   **Research and Documentation:**   * Assist in scoping adaptable approaches and innovative solutions from within and outside Nigeria that can be applied to the project’s action learning pilot and toolbox of approaches. * Produce first drafts of donor reports and project documentation, summarizing project activities, outcomes, and lessons learned. * Develop detailed case studies based on project experiences, highlighting successes, challenges, and impact.   **Support for Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL):**   * Collaborate with the Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (MEL) team to design and conduct project surveys, including the endline survey. * Assist in data collection, analysis, and reporting for project monitoring and evaluation purposes. * Contribute to the ongoing MEL process of the project, ensuring that learning is harvested and documented.   **Collaboration and Communication:**   * Prepare presentations and briefings for internal and external stakeholders, including global experts from organizations like the Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Partnerships and Learning for Sustainability (WASHPaLS 2) team and the Sanitation Learning Hub (SLH). |
| **Key Relationships:** | **Internal:**  Project Coordinator, Head of WASH Programmes, MEL Coordinator, LGA Project Officer, Operations, Finance & Compliance and Security teams.  **External:** State Ministry of Water Resources, Rural Water and Sanitation Agency (RUWASSA), LGA WASH Unit, State Task Group on Sanitation (STGS), State Ministry of Budget & Planning. |
| **Knowledge, Experience and Other Requirements** | **Education and other qualifications:**   * The preferred candidate should possess a university degree in Public Health, Natural Sciences, Social Sciences or equivalent in a relevant field. * Demonstrated proficiency in ICT, with advanced skills in MS Office applications, especially Word, Excel, and PowerPoint. * Excellent writing skills, capable of producing clear and concise reports, case studies, and donor communications. * Proficiency in Microsoft Office suite (Word, Excel, PowerPoint). * Ability to work independently and as part of a diverse team. * Strong organizational skills and attention to detail.   **Language Requirements:**  Excellent written and oral proficiency in English language is required and relevant local language competency is an added advantage. |

**Application Procedure:**

1. Fill and submit the attached Self Help Africa application form along with a cover letter and CV in a single document (of not more than **4 pages**) to the link provided on the website. In the cover letter, please ensure to explain the following:
   * Why you are applying for the position
   * How do your skills and experiences meet the job’s specification
   * When will you be able to take up the position if successful.
2. Submit 2 samples of your best academic writing (published or unpublished). **Kindly note that a plagiarism test will be carried out to check the authenticity of research work submitted.**

The deadline for this application is **6th December, 2024.** You are advised to apply early, as applications will be treated on rolling basis. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

*All candidates offered a job with Self Help Africa 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 strives to be an equal opportunity employer.**