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**JOB DESCRIPTION**

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| **Job Title:** | **PMU Resilience Technical Lead** |
| **Company:** | Self Help Africa |
| **Department:** | Programmes |
| **Location:** | Lilongwe |
| **Reports to:** | PMU Programme Manager |
| **Job Purpose:** | The Resilience Technical Lead will provide technical guidance in the implementation of all resilience work across the BETTER Programme in all the 10 districts.  BETTER is a five-year EU funded programme that aims at increasing resilience, food, nutrition and income security of smallholder farmers in 10 districts (Karonga, Chitipa, Mzimba, Kasungu, Nkhata-Bay, Nkhotakota, Salima, Chiradzulu, Thyolo and Mulanje) across the country. The programme will be implemented by five NGOs namely SHA Malawi (Lead), Action Aid, Plan, ADRA and EAM. The project has the following specific objectives:   1. To strengthen agricultural extension services through 13,400 FFS groups in order to secure effective and productive services for smallholder farmers in 10 KULIMA districts. 2. To increase the resilience of 402,000 smallholder farmers to adapt to adverse effects of climate change and improve food security in 78 EPAs in 10 KULIMA districts.   The Resilience Technical Lead will be responsible for ensuring successful implementation of climate change adaption initiatives among the Farmer Field Schools and in the 10 implementing districts. The Resilience Technical Lead will directly work with district project managers to ensure quality implementation of resilience interventions. |
| **Key Responsibilities:** | * Lead the planning, organization and implementation of poverty and vulnerability assessments in the 10 targeted districts, to identify potential hazards and risks affecting the smallholder farmers. * Track the evolution of the hazards and the risks in the implementing districts and develop appropriate mitigation and adaptation strategies for the targeted communities. * Ensure that appropriate adaptation and mitigation strategies are incorporated in the establishment and running of the FFS. * Provide training and capacity building to the development facilitators, CBF and MT to ensure that resilience activities are incorporated in the FFS curricula. * Work closely with consortium partner resilience focal persons to develop resilience, adaptation and risk reduction strategies for the targeted districts. * Develop strategies and activities to increase farmers’ knowledge of, access to, and application of climate services, improved climate smart agriculture (CSA), sustainable landscapes management and technologies and practices for diversified agricultural production. * Undertake resilience building interventions aimed at increasing adaptive capacity and mitigating risk in smallholder farming systems while incorporating principles of CSA throughout the programme. * Support District Project Managers and indirectly oversees the activities of district level agricultural extension officers disseminating risk reduction, Natural Resources Management and Climate Smart Information within their broader package of agricultural support to smallholder farmers to anticipate and prepare for climate related changes. * Ensure timely dissemination of short term climate projections and climate information, coupled with meaningful interpretation of their potential impacts on agricultural production, including recommendations for effective coping and adaptation strategies. * Work with District Project Managers in the collection and analysis of adaptation and risk reduction data to help strengthen early warning systems in particularly disaster-prone areas. * Provide technical support and guidance to field technical staff, partners and communities around seed multiplication and other food security technical related issues. * Ensure that the programme adopts best practices in integrated rural development, climate change and adaptation and takes up recommendations to ensure that lessons learned within the programme are properly recorded and shared with other partners. * Provide regular reporting to the Programme Manager as per reporting guidelines including preparation and consolidation of monthly, quarterly and annual projects reports. * Develop and maintain strong relationships within and outside SHA, including with the Government of Malawi ministries and departments relevant to resilience building for smallholder farmers. * Ensure good individual and team performance in support of project implementation through coaching, mentoring and regular meetings. * Contribute to effective teamwork, coordination and work planning among development facilitators, technical specialists, and administrative staff in support of project objectives. * Contribute to a working environment of mutual trust, respect, and care among all staff. * Responsible for building the capacity of all project staff, enhancing their commitment, character, competence, and critical thinking. Work with them to develop and implement personal capacity building plans. * Perform any other duties assigned by the Programme Manager. |
| **Key Relationships:** | * **Reports to** PMU Programme Manager * **Coordinates with** Consortium Partner Resilience Focal Persons, District Project Managers and other Programme staff, Project Implementation Partners, PMU FFS Technical Lead, PMU Communication and Learning Specialist, PMU M&E Officer, SHA HQ Agriculture Advisors, Consortium Partners, government departments, district councils and CGIAR centres. |
| **Essential Qualifications and Experience** | * Bachelor’s Degree in Agriculture, Physical Geography, Biology, Natural Resources Management, Environmental Sciences, and Environmental Engineering. * Minimum of 7 years’ experience in climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction and resilience building projects. * Experience in promoting Climate Smart Agriculture NRM technologies. * Experience of disaster risk analysis and planning at both community and district levels. * An understanding of climate change related issues and how they impact on the smallholder farmer and the nation at large. * Experience in the use of on-line climate modelling tools and resources. * Experience on other similar donor funded projects, prior experience on EU funded programs preferred. * Experience in capacity building for smallholder farmers and staff in resilience. * A good understanding of project cycle management approaches and tools – including Participatory Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment and Planning, project appraisal, monitoring and evaluation and partners’ capacity building. * Good communication skills, excellent people management and interpersonal skills preferably in an NGO. * Strong communication skills in English with solid computer skills in Microsoft Word, Excel, power point and email. * Basic statistical analysis using Excel. * Proven ability to motivate, provide technical support and guidance to a diverse team of staff and partners with minimum direct supervision. * Understanding of gender issues in agriculture, NRM and DRR and previous experience of delivering gender training in agriculture projects. |
| **Desirable Qualifications and Experience** | * MSc in Agriculture, Physical Geography, Biology, Natural Resources Management, Environmental Sciences, Environmental Engineering. * Crop protection experience or qualification, with an understanding of the current knowledge of the biology, impact and control of Fall Army Worm. * Climate change and disaster risk modelling experience. |
| **Role Competencies:** | * Considerable experience writing technical reports. * Excellent communication skills. * Ability to work as part of team across different cultures. * Ability to work with minimum supervision and take initiative. * Ability to solve problems and take corrective action. * High level of integrity and high standards of personal conduct. |

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