

SAA Managing Director

SAA is seeking a dynamic agricultural development professional to serve as its Managing Director (MD). The MD will serve as the chief operating officer of the organization and will be based in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The MD will be part of a broader management team that includes the organization's two Executive Directors, the Director of Strategic Opportunities (DSO), the SAFE Managing Director, and the SAA Country and Program Directors. The MD reports to the two EDs in accordance with their relative areas of responsibility and expertise (Programs and Management). Other than the DSO, who reports directly to the EDs, all SAA staff members in Africa report to the MD to ensure effective operation, coordination and integration of all activities.

Primary Role and Responsibilities

The Managing Director:

- 1) Works closely with the two Executive Directors and all staff to implement the organization's Board-approved agenda. He/she is responsible for the day-to-day monitoring, coordination and supervision of SAA field programs and associated administrative and financial activities.
- 2) Works with the Country Directors and Program Directors to achieve shared goals and objectives in crop extension, post-harvest extension, partners' system integration, extension human resource development, and monitoring, evaluation and learning. This includes working to:
 - Ensure effective and timely program and financial planning, implementation, evaluation and reporting of results and impacts;
 - Identify new organizational opportunities that are consistent with established strategic directions, and bring them to the attention of the EDs and DSO;
 - Identify and attract prospective new talent as the organization expands its scope and/or undertakes new initiatives; and
 - Motivate staff, encourage creative thought and problem solving, and ensure responsible and responsive action at the country level, and conduct periodic evaluations of field staff reporting directly to him/her.
- 3) Provides support, as needed, to the ED-Programs and DSO in resource mobilization and to the ED-Management to improve corporate services delivery.
- 4) Liaises with the SAFE MD on programmatic, administrative and financial matters that impinge on or otherwise affect implementation of SAA programs.
- 5) Supports the efforts of the ED-Management to monitor and resolve country-specific legal and institutional issues.
- 6) Represents SAA in day-to-day dealings with a range of government, private sector and NGO partners, with a focus on ensuring effective communications among these various organizations and the principal representatives for the SAA EDs.
- 7) Undertakes additional management and coordination responsibilities as deemed appropriate by the EDs for Programs and Management.

SAA is seeking candidates who have:

- A strong management record together with superior interpersonal and negotiating skills, and demonstrated performance in creating, motivating and leading diverse teams of highly qualified professionals;
- 10 years minimum in agricultural development in Africa, preferably in the area of extension;
- A Masters Degree in agriculture or related field (a PhD is preferred);
- Strong experience relative to managing complex and culturally diverse development-oriented organizations;
- A proven track record of innovation and creativity relative to establishing and managing diverse and effective public/private R&D partnerships for development;
- Demonstrated skills in donor relations and fund-raising;
- A strong desire to assist African countries with the provision of agricultural extension services, especially to women farmers and very poor rural households;
- An ability and willingness to travel extensively, in Africa and elsewhere;
- Fluency in English, the working language of Sasakawa Africa Association (a working knowledge of French will be considered a plus).

How to apply:

If you wish to apply, send **by email** an up-to-date CV and a cover letter explaining your interest and why you feel you are especially qualified for the job to:

Ms. Karen Bromham (Bromham@wananchi.com)

NOTE: SAA provides an internationally competitive salary package, is an equal opportunity employer and strongly encourages women applicants. Closing date for applications is December 15, 2008.