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GRAIN SA GROUP OF ENTITIES

The Grain SA Group of Entities' mission is to ensure and grow a credible and sustainable voluntary and inclusive grain producers' organisation that drives the mandated strategic actions.

By striving to build trust and relationships through respectful interaction, we create an enabling and caring environment for passionate, dedicated and knowledgeable individuals to grow and enjoy serving the organisation and influence the broader food chain.

Grain SA is a non-profit organization dedicated to the development and sustainability of the grain industry in South Africa. NAMPO Academy provides artisanal, technician, and farmworker training tailored to the needs of grain producers.

The organization would like to appoint a suitable, qualified person in the following position:

Manager : Research Coordination and NAMPO Academy (Pretoria)

The incumbent will advocate for grain farmers' sustainability and profitability by leading research initiatives and managing training programs. This role involves coordinating research, developing policies, and ensuring that industry, academic, and research institutions focus on critical areas such as crop improvement, plant health, climate resilience, biosecurity, data and analytics, and human capital development.

Key Responsibilities will include but is not limited to:

General:

Advocacy and Leadership: Champion the interests of grain farmers by advocating for research and training programs that enhance sustainability and profitability. Communicate the importance of research and innovation in agriculture to stakeholders.

- Stakeholder Engagement: Collaborate with government agencies, industry stakeholders, academic institutions, and research organizations to align efforts with Grain SA's and NAMPO Academy's strategic objectives.
- Team Management: Lead and mentor a team of researchers, educators, and policy analysts.
- Funding and Grants: Identify and secure funding opportunities to support research and training initiatives.

Academy:

- Establishment and Development: Lead the establishment of NAMPO Academy, including developing its vision, mission, and strategic goals.
- Program Design: Develop and implement training programs for artisans, technicians, and farmworkers, focusing on practical skills and industry-relevant knowledge.
- Partnership Building: Build and maintain partnerships with industry stakeholders, educational institutions, and government agencies.
- Curriculum Development: Oversee the creation of curricula aligned with industry standards and best practices.
- Quality Assurance: Implement quality assurance processes to maintain high standards of training and education.
- Resource Management: Manage the academy's resources, including staff, facilities, and budget.

- Student Support: Develop support services for students, including career guidance, mentorship, and job placement assistance.
- Community Engagement: Promote the academy within the community and industry to attract students and build a positive reputation.
- Monitoring and Evaluation: Establish systems to assess the impact and effectiveness of training programs.

Research:

- Research Coordination: Oversee and coordinate research activities in areas such as crop improvement, plant health, climate resilience, biosecurity, data and analytics, and human capital development. Evaluate research outputs for quality and impact.
- Advocacy: Advocate for public and private research institutions to align their research focus with priorities identified by Grain SA members.
- Knowledge Transfer: Promote the sharing of research outcomes with producers through accessible and informative strategies.
- Data Analysis: Analyze data and industry trends to inform strategic decisions.
- Report Writing: Prepare comprehensive reports to funders, communicate research findings and recommendations.

Minimum Requirements:

- A Master's degree in Agricultural Science, Agricultural Education, Vocational Training, Economics, or a related field. A PhD in any one of these fields will be a strong advantage.
- Minimum of 10 years' experience in agricultural research, education, vocational training, or a related field.
- Experience in stakeholder engagement and collaboration.
- Proven ability to develop and implement training programs.

The ideal candidate is:

- passionate about the agricultural sector and committed to its development;
- a strategic thinker with a proactive approach and strong analytical and research skills;
- an innovative thinker with a passion for education and training;
- has got excellent written and verbal communication skills as well as strong interpersonal skills and the ability to build relationships with diverse stakeholders;
- a visionary leader with a proactive approach and strong leadership and team management skills who has got the ability to inspire and motivate staff and students;
- a person with strong organizational and project management skills.

Post Level : Peromnes 6

Remuneration: The organization will offer a competitive salary, in exchange for the services of the successful candidate. All remuneration packages are calculated according to the "cost to company" method. Candidates for this position will be recruited according to the Employment Equity policy for the Grain SA Group of Entities.

Closing date: Please send a detailed CV indicating qualifications, experience and references as well as certified copies of ID and qualifications not later than 28 October 2024 for attention: Coretha Usher: Head of HR and Corporate Services : coretha@grainsa.co.za **Kindly note that applications which do not include these documents will not be considered.**

All applications will be treated as confidential. If you have not been contacted within 14 days of the closing date of application, please consider your application as unsuccessful.