



Job description
Agricultural R&D Manager
Cambodia
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On Project Alba

We support small-scale farmers in developing countries to increase their income by increasing their productivity, ensuring they adapt to market needs and making them resilient to climate change.

We are a for profit social startup with an innovative business model of advanced contract farming. For more information, please go to [our website](#).

Job description of Agricultural R&D Manager

Agricultural R&D at Project Alba aims at growing always more crops at always better yields while improving farmers resources (soils, water, use of labour) with the constraint of using tools usually available in small-scale farmers in developing countries.

The R&D at Project Alba includes both a specific Agricultural R&D department, more focused on research activities, and a development department that integrates not only agricultural research, but also behavioural and process driven approach to our operations. The Agricultural R&D Manager leads the Agricultural R&D department, with a specific focus to tropical agriculture adapted to smallholder farmers.

The Agricultural R&D Manager leads a team currently composed of 7 members responsible for that program and works directly with the CEO, participating in strategic decisions. Work is structured in the following responsibilities :

- Leading a research team and coaching them technically on
 - Introduction and testing of new crops by adapting seeds and techniques to local conditions.
 - Tests of newly available tools, techniques, strategies and produce for pest management
 - Development and improvement of agricultural practices adapted to small scale farmers in developing countries
 - Research of tools and inputs that can bring value to farmers at reasonable costs and identification of suppliers.

- Developing and maintaining research partners in south-east Asia and through the world.
 - Connecting with our existing partners (Katsetsart university, world vegetable center, New Zealand's Plant and Food Research Institute)
 - Developing new partnership and help increase the amount of research in horticulture happening in Cambodia.
- Provide feedback to the development, training and operations team
 - Coordinate with the training team to improve trainings available to the operations department.
 - Provide technical validation of the development team for them to improve operational processes.
- Provide strategic guidance to the executive team and CEO on the directions to take in terms of agricultural techniques.

The position is based in Phnom Penh and includes weekly trips to our testing fields, farmers. It also includes international trips both in south-east Asia and globally.

Profile

Must have

- Qualifications
 - Masters in agriculture, agronomy, PhD is a strong plus.
- Experience
 - 3 + years in field based research, development or agricultural extension.
 - Experience in developing countries.
 - Project management background.
 - Startup experience is a strong plus.
- Spirit
 - Strong curiosity and passion for anything agricultural
 - Field mentality. Needs to enjoy going on a mission physically, be on an experiment field, connect with farmers. Needs a good health !
 - Multi-culturalists. Understands communication is important and not easy, willing to learn foreign cultural norms. Patient.

Good to have

- Skills and/or experience with programming.
- Khmer Language.
- Good networks with tropical agronomy experts.