



### CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

**Position:** WASSD Program Officer  
**Type of contract:** Local  
**Reference:** 10/PO/2024  
**Location:** Dakar (Senegal) with continental mobility  
**Opening date:** 25/11/2024  
**Closing Date:** 16/12/2024

**Observations:** Recruitment pending program launch

#### About CORAF and the Program

The West and Central Africa Council for Agricultural Research and Development (CORAF) was founded in 1987. CORAF ([www.coraf.org](http://www.coraf.org)) currently brings together the National Agricultural Research Systems (NARS) of 23 West and Central African countries: Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo. The vision of CORAF in its Strategic Plan 2018-2027 is a future where people and communities in West and Central Africa will achieve food and nutrition security and are prosperous. Its mission is to ensure sustainable improvement to the productivity, competitiveness, and markets of the agricultural system in WCA.

To achieve the goals of socio-economic development and people's well-being, African agriculture must significantly improve its productivity while maintaining the sustainability of diversified and quality agri-food systems.

High yield gap, estimated at 75% of potential yield and low average growth rate for most agricultural products (lower than the 6% target set by the Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Programme or CAADP) are worrying, given the substantial investments made in the sector over the last 10 to 15 years.

Limited availability of agricultural inputs, inadequate distribution networks in isolated communities, poor quality and counterfeit seeds, as well as high prices for certified seeds and inputs are ongoing challenges in West Africa and major barriers to agricultural productivity and growth. To address these shortcomings, donors and West African governments have been working through the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and other regional bodies to develop and operationalize consistent quality control procedures, strengthen seed systems and make trade in inputs easier, faster and cheaper.

ECOWAS has received financial support from USAID/West Africa for the development of a regional agricultural input strategy (RAIS). CORAF has developed on behalf of ECOWAS/CILSS/UEMOA the strategy that outlines an integrated approach to increase agricultural inputs, including seeds, crops, livestock and aquaculture. As part of the implementation of the strategy, CORAF designated as the technical secretariat has received funding for the implementation of the West Africa Seed Sector Development Programme (WASSD). The project aims to increase the availability and access to quality seeds, improve yields and food security, while strengthening the private sector and political environment.

The overall objective of the Seed Sector Development Programme in West Africa (WASSD) is to improve agricultural productivity through improved access for farmers to greater use of improved agricultural inputs and technologies provided by private sector companies in West-Africa, and a collaborative engagement with a multitude of regional and national organizations and associations.

<b>Job title</b>	
As part of the implementation of the Program, CORAF is seeking a <b>Program Officer WASSD (M/W)</b> .	
<b>Mission</b>	
<p>Under the authority of the CORAF Director of Research and Innovation and under the direct supervision of the Programme Coordinator, the Programme Officer is responsible for the implementation of technical support to the programme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitor the implementation of agreed actions;</li> <li>• Prepare or propose concept notes and terms of reference for activities;</li> <li>• Prepare letters for the attention of implementing partners;</li> <li>• Facilitate workshops;</li> <li>• Ensure the reporting of meetings;</li> <li>• Identify, in consultation with the evaluation monitoring specialist, and propose themes for the publication of policy notes, development articles or scientific articles;</li> <li>• Draft technical reports for the six-monthly and annual periods;</li> <li>• Provide targeted support to country demand with subject matter experts, including monitoring and evaluation, fiduciary management, capacity building; USAID administrative and fiduciary procedures;</li> <li>• Participate in country support missions;</li> <li>• Contribute to knowledge management and institutional memory.</li> </ul>	
<b>Profile</b>	
<b>Education</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Master's degree or equivalent in agronomy, agro-economics and related disciplines.</li> </ul>
<b>Experience</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ At least five (05) years' experience in development issues, particularly those of rural areas in West and Central Africa;</li> <li>▪ Minimum of five (05) years' experience in project management, including USAID;</li> <li>▪ Minimum of five (05) years' experience in Results-Based Management (RBM);</li> <li>▪ Minimum of three (03) years' experience in writing or participating in the writing of technical documents;</li> <li>▪ Minimum of three (03) years' experience in data collection and analysis;</li> <li>▪ Minimum of three (03) years' experience in agricultural research, agricultural and rural advisory services, extension, education, and capacity building;</li> <li>▪ At least three (03) years of experience in donor procedures (USAID, etc.);</li> <li>▪ Minimum of seven (5) years' experience in a multicultural environment.</li> </ul>
<b>Soft skills</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Humility;</li> <li>▪ Courtesy;</li> <li>▪ Ability to work under pressure;</li> <li>▪ Discretion;</li> <li>▪ Be methodical;</li> <li>▪ Organizational capacity;</li> <li>▪ Team spirit;</li> <li>▪ Adaptability;</li> <li>▪ Integrity;</li> <li>▪ Sense of priorities;</li> <li>▪ Listening ability;</li> <li>▪ Analytical capacity;</li> <li>▪ Ability to anticipate;</li> <li>▪ Responsiveness.</li> </ul>

<b>Software</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Office 365 (Word; Excel; PowerPoint ; Access )</li> <li>▪ Outlook ;</li> <li>▪ Collection software: KOBACOLLECT</li> </ul>
<b>Languages</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Bilingual (French-English) both orally and in writing</li> </ul>
<b>Mobility</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ On the Continent</li> </ul>
<b>Other</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Knowledge of CORAF;</li> <li>▪ Demonstrated interest in agriculture, food security and development;</li> </ul>
<b>Application procedures</b>	
<b>Application Package</b>	<p>It must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A cover letter addressed to the Executive Director, Dakar, Senegal. <b>The file should be named as follows: Initial of first name +Last in mask_LM. For example, ADIALLO_LM);</b></li> <li>▪ A detailed CV, with the names and contacts of three mandatory references (e-mail, address, and telephone). <b>The CV file should be named as follows: Initial of first name +Last name in caps_CV_month and year. For example, ADIALLO_CV March 2024.</b></li> </ul>
<b>Contact</b>	Applications should be sent to <a href="#">Youmann Executive Search</a>
<b>Deadline for filing</b>	<b>16/12/2024 at 11:59 PM</b>

**Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for an interview.**