



JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Title: Regional Director

Department: ECHO Asia Impact Center
Reports To: ECHO (International) President/CEO
FLSA Status: Administrative Exemption
Prepared Date: December 2022
Location: Chiang Mai, Thailand

SUMMARY:

Reduce hunger and improve lives in Asia through training, resourcing, and creation of partnerships that equip people with reliable and replicable agricultural knowledge and skills. Through appropriate actions and words communicate a desire to honor God and follow Jesus.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Develop, supervise, and support the existing Asia team along with potential future teams that are modular and scalable serving distinct regions of Asia.

- Ensure teams are developing and maintaining diverse networks of those working directly with farmers in the Asia region.
- Ensure teams are providing validated training, tours, demonstrations and technical support in ways that are strategic in both impact and multiplying benefit for small-scale farmers, communities, and partner organizations in the region.
- Work with team members to develop follow-up steps ensuring that participants in ECHO's regional equipping events receive appropriate encouragement and support through e-mail, technical advice, and access to ECHO materials.
- Ensure that team members are evaluating the impact of training events to improve training resources.
- Ensure that team members are creatively disseminating validated innovations, ideas, and techniques throughout the region.
- Actively participate in facilitating and conducting training activities.
- Facilitate the selection and development of research and demonstration activities that benefit small-scale farmers and gardeners in Asia.

- Provide guidance and direction to the on-going operation and development of the ECHO Asia Seed Bank and the management and focus of its seed collection.
- Oversee the effective management, administration, public engagement, and financial conduct of the Asia Team and future teams.
- Lead staff assessments and professional development plans.
- Lead and encourage the health, growth, and equipping of the Asia staff team individually, collectively, professionally, relationally, and spiritually.
- In coordination with ECHO's President/CEO properly operate in accordance with the guidance and oversight of the ECHO Asia Thailand Foundation Board.

2. Develop Partnerships

- Develop intentional partnerships between ECHO and like-minded individuals and organizations working to improve the productivity of small-scale farmers in Asia through the identification, validation, dissemination, and evaluation of innovations, techniques, and regionally relevant ideas.
- Leverage organizational capacities/strengths to connect diverse network members.
- Introduce ECHO resources to change agents previously unfamiliar with ECHO and connect regional change agents to one another.
- Develop relationships between ECHO and like-minded individuals and organizations interested in partnering with ECHO financially.

3. Develop Strategy for effective engagement in the region

- Develop ECHO Asia as an integral and closely-linked element of ECHO's global outreach and engagement.
- Strategize and develop modular, scalable regional teams housed at the ECHO Asia Small Farm Resource Center that are under the leadership of the Asia Director that serve Southeast Asia and South Asia in addition to future teams to ensure relevancy and localization of innovations.
- Keep informed about small scale farmer challenges, innovations, agricultural tools, techniques, and practices through continuing education, research, professional development and engagement in regional meetings and conversations.
- Work in close consultation with ECHO Florida and other ECHO regional training leaders to develop/enhance training curriculum that is science/research/experience-based and relevant to the needs of small-scale farmers and gardeners in Southeast Asia.

4. Coordinate Communication

- Based on weekly, monthly and annual schedules and protocols, facilitate the development of ECHO Asia plans, proposals, budgets, administrative frameworks, and reports.

- Ensure close communication with ECHO Florida.
- Supervise the writing and distribution of reports and impact stories following Asia training and networking events.
- Maintain correspondence with partners in the Asia region
 - o Ensure production of quarterly issues of ECHO Asia Newsletters.
 - o Locate appropriate outside technical materials and resources that can be contextualized, translated, and shared with the ECHO Asia network
 - o Coordinate the translation of Asia Notes, ECHO Development Note issues, and other technical materials into regional languages.
 - o Assist in providing ready access to these materials through ECHOcommunity.org.
 - o Share best practices with other RIC directors and ECHO Florida staff.

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ECHO is a global Christian organization
that follows Jesus by reducing hunger and improving lives worldwide
through partnerships that equip people with agricultural resources and skills

QUALIFICATIONS:

The qualifications listed below describe the character, experience, knowledge, and skills a qualified candidate will possess to serve as Director of ECHO Asia.

1. A committed follower of Jesus Christ who affirms ECHO's Statement of Faith or the Apostle's Creed and possesses character traits consistent with ECHO's core values.
2. Must have significant international agriculture and extension experience working with small-scale farmers in an Asian context.
3. Demonstrated ability to develop and maintain a high level of collaboration, networking, communication, and trust.
4. Demonstrated ability to build and lead a thriving, ethnically-diverse team in Asia.
5. Demonstrated ability to work collaboratively with a team to set and achieve goals, solve problems, and implement research and extension programs.
6. Demonstrated ability to strategize and implement new initiatives that are conducted in a humble, participatory manner.
7. Demonstrated commitment to a thoughtful integration of word and deed as an expression of holistic Christian witness.
8. Demonstrated commitment to embracing the dignity of small-scale farmers and their local knowledge.
9. Demonstrated experience overseeing/coordinating training programs and staff, and/or conducting and coordinating research, and/or obtaining program/research grants.
10. Demonstrated commitment to working for the best interests of a diverse Asian network.

11. Demonstrated proficiency in spoken and written English and high oral proficiency in Thai.
12. Demonstrated proficiency in computer programs including: Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and Google Docs.
13. Availability to travel throughout the country/Region/internationally as well as to work weekends for special events.

REQUIRED EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE:

1. Minimum of a Master's Degree in agriculture, community development, or related area of study required.
2. Minimum of five years of experience in international agriculture, sustainability, community development, and/or agricultural extension in Asia.
3. Minimum of five years of experience serving and leading in an Asian cross-cultural context.

BENEFITS:

- Competitive Wages
- Paid Medical Insurance
- Paid Holidays
- Paid Time Off (PTO)

TO APPLY: Please forward your letter of interest, a technical writing sample, and resume/CV to the attention of: asia@echonet.org

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS:

The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential function of this job. While performing the duties of this job, the employee is regularly required to stand, walk; use hands, talk and hear. Fine motor skills such as typing, the use of a computer mouse and telephone handset are required. The employee is frequently required to reach with hands and arms. The employee is required to sit, stoop, kneel, and crouch. The employee must occasionally lift and/or move up to 30 pounds. Specific vision abilities required by this job include close vision, distance vision, peripheral vision, depth perception, and ability to adjust focus.