We are looking for a new team member!

Landscape restoration enterprise entrepreneur

Based in Kenya, approximately 3-4 days per week, initial contract February 2020 – July 2020. If successful, this can be extended into a permanent position.

Context
Justdiggit (www.justdiggit.org), an international landscape restoration organization active in Africa, is looking for someone to help us set up a ‘Landscape restoration enterprise’. This social enterprise should help pastoral communities to generate income from landscape restoration activities such as grass seed banks.

Justdiggit and our local partners work on a range of interventions to restore degraded rangelands in the Amboseli-Tsavo ecosystem in Kajiado county, Kenya. This is a vital ecosystem for Maasai pastoralists, their livestock and wildlife, but is a region that has also suffered from heavy overgrazing and erosion.

We have identified opportunities for ‘Landscape restoration enterprises’: a social business model whereby degraded landscapes are restored whilst simultaneously generating an income for pastoral communities. One of the successful examples Justdiggit is specifically interested in developing are ‘grass seed banks’ where communities produce grass seeds (and hay) which can be used within the community, or sold to NGO’s, governments or private companies.

Currently there are a few functional grass seed banks within our project areas, with a view to develop more. In the coming few years we need these indigenous grass seeds for our own restoration projects (thereby providing an initial market), but we also want to work towards a model where the grass seed banks can turn into self-sustainable businesses by finding other buyers for the grass seeds too.

This is why we are looking for someone that can work together with us to develop a blueprint business plan; reach out to potential partners and buyers and set up the social enterprise in the coming months.

What we can offer
We are offering an initial 6-month contract. After this period, we hope to have jointly developed a clear vision of how this social enterprise can grow into a self-sustaining business in the years to come.

Justdiggit is committed to making this a success and is willing to support you and the social enterprise to grow into this self-sustaining entity. After this initial 6-month contract we will evaluate your role and contract type and can extend or adjust this based on our findings.
Key responsibilities

- Explore strategies and opportunities to build a self-sustainable Landscape Restoration Enterprise.
- Write a business plan for this.
- Carry out business development (contacting potential partners and buyer)
- Discuss with NGO’s, partners and communities to help them become successful suppliers while at the same time restoring the ecosystem.
- Explore funding opportunities and co-write proposals.
- Explore alternative options for fundraising or partnerships (e.g. crowdfunding).
- Explore opportunities for other landscape restoration products and initiatives (e.g. hay, spices, medicinal herbs, etc.).

Required experience and skills

- Proven entrepreneurial or business development experience, preferably in the environmental or agricultural sector.
- Fluent in Swahili and English, knowledge of Maa is a preference.
- Kenyan national.
- Ability to liaise with stakeholders at different levels.
- Good intercultural communication skills
- Pragmatic ‘can do’ attitude.
- Ability to work independently.
- Positive mindset.
- Experience with working or living in pastoral environments is a preference.

Support

We will support you from our office in The Netherlands and our Regional Representative in Nairobi with technical advice, organizational support and our strong international network of partners. We will provide you with:

- Monthly remuneration.
- All field expenses including transport, food and accommodation.
- Communication allowance.

If you believe you are the right person for this role, please send your CV and motivation letter to sander@justdiggit.org before January 31, 2020.

We hope we can welcome you to our team soon!