



Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development

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VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

The Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development (RCMRD) is an Intergovernmental organization which provides services in surveying, mapping, remote sensing, GIS and ICT to its member States, partners and clients. It currently has twenty member States in the Eastern and Southern Africa Region.

Our Mission is to Strengthen Member States and our stakeholder's capacity through Generation, Application and Dissemination of Geo-information and Allied Technologies for sustainable development.

The Centre hosts the SERVIR Eastern and Southern Africa Hub; an initiative that utilizes earth observation data and geospatial technologies to generate information for managing climate risks, water and water related disasters, and land use change.

RCMRD wishes to fill the following vacant positions under the SERVIR E&SA Project with duty station in Nairobi:

1. Capacity Development Lead

The Capacity Development Lead will primarily be responsible for hub activities that develop and increase the capabilities of member States and other stakeholders to work with Earth observation data for societal benefit.

Duties and responsibilities

- a) Design and implementation of comprehensive capacity building programs in application of earth observation/remote sensing, GIS, and geo-information related fields in environmental disciplines.
- b) Coordination of training programs targeted at decision makers, policy makers, professionals and graduate level students in environmental sciences, water and water

related disasters, climate change, land use management, ecosystem management, wildlife ecology and management etc.

- c) Building and institutionalizing the technical capacity of decision-makers in the geo-information related fields.
- d) Engagement and collaboration with national and international institutions in the field of training and capacity development in earth observation, applied remote sensing and GIS, with a view to developing collaborations that foster strong content development.
- e) Promotion of the different modules of the capacity building program in the Eastern & Southern Africa region, with a view to encouraging the application of different tools, data and products developed by RCMRD.
- f) Coordination of capacity building needs assessments and maintenance of all capacity development related inventories.
- g) Work with the Training Section at RCMRD to assist in the development of training programs.

Qualifications and experience

- a) At least a Masters' degree in Remote Sensing, Earth Observation, GIS, Geo-Spatial Information with a strong bias to applications in environmental sciences, water resources, food security, disaster management and/or natural resources management, with at least 7 years' experience in training and capacity building initiatives in such fields.
- b) Knowledge in earth observation/remote sensing and GIS applications, with demonstrated experience in training using such tools in environment, climate, weather, water resources, hydrology, ecosystems, forest resources and/or species distribution modelling disciplines etc.
- c) Demonstrated experience in development of a comprehensive capacity building program in remote sensing and GIS applications – both basic theory and practice. The capacity to develop training materials and provide editorial oversight over such materials is an added advantage.
- d) Excellent coordination skills with the ability to organize and direct multi-disciplinary training programs that apply geo-information technologies and related fields in environment, climate, weather, water resources, hydrology, ecosystems, forest resources and/or species distribution modelling disciplines. Experience in organizing and coordinating training workshops would be an added advantage.
- e) Ability to work with different technical persons/sections to develop content appropriate for feeding into a capacity development program.
- f) Project management experience, including a proven record of productive engagement with government institutions, NGOs and scientists would be an added advantage.
- g) Ability to coordinate capacity building needs assessments and market studies.
- h) Strong written and verbal communication skills in English, demonstrable by published work in reputable media (peer reviewed journals, published reports etc) in the respective field of specialization.

2. Geospatial Information Technology (GIT) Lead

The GIT Lead will be required to provide technical leadership and coordination in all SERVIR Eastern and Southern Africa (E&SA) work relating to geo-spatial information technology (GIT).

The position will leverage on the individual's knowledge and expertise in GIT, with an emphasis on major issues of interest at global, regional and national levels, and therefore contribute to SERVIR's goal of developing services that respond to societal problems in this field.

In this regard, the individual will be required to execute the following duties and responsibilities:

Duties and responsibilities

- a) Provide technical leadership in GIT issues to the staff under him/her, to work effectively and come up with results as per SERVIR E&SA's Work Plan and the SERVIR Results Framework. He/she will work with other staff to deliver state of the art GIT tools and applications which facilitate use of SERVIR services.
- b) Conceptualize problem areas through engagement of relevant stakeholders and formulation of appropriate GIT solutions to respond to problems around societal benefit issues.
- c) Engage partner institutions in problem definition, proposal development, and execution of a project to achieve a desired result within the GIT field. Partner institutions could be, but are not limited to SERVIR implementing partners, implementers of Applied Science Projects, etc.
- d) Develop work plans for the GIT tasks, in liaison with other Thematic Leads under SERVIR E&SA project. Contribute to the overall SERVIR E&SA work planning process.
- e) Ensure timely delivery of results for assignments under GIT, and strictly adhere to set reporting deadlines.
- f) Coordinate and work with different agencies and SERVIR partners (e.g. governments, non-governmental organizations, universities, research institutes etc) to derive products that are relevant to policy and/or operations.
- g) Lead and coordinate analysis of data and information, write articles for both technical and non-technical audiences.
- h) Liaise with RCMRD IT Section to ensure proper operations and maintenance of SERVIR IT infrastructure and systems administration, including maintenance of an inventory of all equipment, data and products, the website and also provide regular back-ups among other tasks.
- i) Present the results of the GIT work effectively and communicate findings to diverse audiences, either at policy level, scientific forums, and/or community-based organizations.
- j) Make timely reports (submissions of proposals, work plans, quarterly reports, annual reports and budgets) to the relevant supervisors.
- k) Liaise with the SERVIR User Engagement Lead and M&E Officers to ensure that the outreach and monitoring and evaluation data and information from relevant GIT tasks are captured adequately.
- l) Liaise with the Capacity Development Lead to ensure capacity building activities under relevant GIT tasks are coordinated and delivered appropriately.

Qualifications and experience

The ideal candidate will be required to have the following qualifications:

- a) A Master's degree or higher in Information Technology, Computer Science, Information Systems, Geo-Spatial Sciences (or a related field), and 4 years' experience with demonstrable outputs in the field of geo-information technology.
- b) Demonstrable experience working with GIS, geo-spatial analysis tools, IT, where relevant programming skills were applied to solve a problem. The knowledge to translate geo-spatial data into geo-spatial solutions to address various environmental issues will be added advantage.
- c) Demonstrable experience working as a developer with R, Python, JavaScript, Google Earth Engine, Jupyter Notebook, Linux Scripting or other similar programs.
- d) Demonstrable capacity to engage peers in geo-information technology using geo-spatial tools and related applications. The capacity to define problems, develop proposals, and execute projects to achieve desired results.
- e) Capacity to work with multi-agency and multi-national teams on problems relating to geo-information technology and to develop products that are relevant to policy and operations.
- f) Knowledge and capacity to analyze geo-spatial and non-spatial data and information and write articles for both technical and non-technical audiences.
- g) Ability to present results effectively and communicate to diverse audiences, either at policy level, scientific forums, and/or community-based organizations.
- h) Demonstrable ability to lead a team to work effectively on a defined problem and come up with results within a desired timeframe.

3. **Technical Expert - Weather and Climate (2)**

The SERVIR E&SA Weather and Climate thematic area leads cutting edge research and service provision to stakeholders and partners in the Eastern and Southern Africa region. A range of services under the thematic area include: development of weather monitoring and forecasting solutions that integrate earth observations and ground weather stations observations, frost monitoring and forecasting, climate vulnerability mapping and climate risk assessments, development of weather and climate data management and visualization systems, integration of data from various sources to develop integrated solutions that support resilience of natural and social systems to climate extremes and other environmental shocks as well as multidisciplinary research and capacity building.

Duties and responsibilities

The Technical Expert (TE) will work with the weather & climate team to:

- a) Generate and advance knowledge, build thematic team skills, produce information for decision making in the field of weather and climate applications, to support stakeholders in the RCMRD member States region and beyond.
- b) Provide technical input to activities and tasks under the thematic area. This input shall include data discovery, data analysis, technical report writing, development of training material and capacity building to thematic team members, stakeholders and partners.
- c) Engage stakeholders and partners in problem identification and co-development of solutions in the thematic area with the leadership of the Thematic Lead and in consultation with the relevant staff within the SERVIR E&SA team.

- d) Support the development of thematic work plans through the identification of needs and priorities, and in consultation with the Thematic Lead.
- e) Generate innovative ideas and methods for data analysis, use programming software, and provide quality outputs for inclusion in the delivery of services under the thematic area.
- f) Collaborate in writing and publishing technical reports, peer reviewed articles and articles for general audiences that advance awareness and contribute knowledge and information to development of decision making in the Eastern & Southern Africa region.

Qualifications and experience

- a) At least a Masters' degree in Meteorology, Climate Change, Geography, Environmental Science, Spatial Sciences, Physics or a relevant field and at least 3 years of professional experience working in similar roles.
- b) In lieu of the above, a Bachelor's degree combined with minimum 4 years of professional experience working in similar roles.
- c) Advanced knowledge and skills in weather and climate technologies including working with observation, model and climate projections data. Knowledge of the climate change projections and the IPCC methodologies for climate risk assessments is required.
- d) Knowledge and demonstrated experience in statistical and dynamical modeling, especially in applied weather and climate topics such as weather forecasting, frost mapping/forecasting and air quality monitoring, climate modeling, and using statistical and dynamical models.
- e) Advanced knowledge and demonstrated experience working with statistical and mapping software relevant in weather and climate studies i.e. R, Python, Google Earth Engine is required and the candidate must demonstrate technical ability to use these tools. Skills in using GIS and Remote Sensing software like ArcGIS, ENVI is an added advantage.
- f) Knowledge of methods, theories and tools relevant in climate risk and resilience studies.
- g) Good understanding and knowledge of weather and climate challenges in the Eastern & Southern Africa region.
- h) Peer reviewed publications in reputable journals will be an added advantage but is not a requirement.

4. Gender and Environment Specialist

The Gender and Environment Specialist will be responsible for integrating gender perspectives, concepts, methodologies and action plans into RCMRD's services and ensure that gender responsive tools and products add value to evidence based decision making processes. To advance the utility of these services, an explicit focus on gender and livelihoods will improve service design and delivery.

The Gender and Environment Specialist will be expected to co-develop stakeholder driven and gender inclusive service design and implementation plans, which help RCMRD to deliver geo-spatial solutions that respond to vulnerabilities to climate change, water related disasters, agriculture and food security, and land use change issues. Innovations and customization of gender related globally accepted standards and technologies around these issues would be encouraged.

Duties and responsibilities

The Gender and Environment Specialist will be required to undertake the following duties:

- a) Provide advice on gender inclusion policies to the SERVIR E&SA Project and other RCMRD projects.
- b) Design gender inclusion activities in collaboration with the SERVIR Project service leads to be implemented under the Project. With reference to the SERVIR Service Planning Toolkit, provide inputs to the Service Concept Documents on integrating a gender responsive approach to their service development process. The individual would thus contribute to updating of the toolkit through illustration of best practices on gender inclusive SERVIR services, in collaboration with the SERVIR team. This task is also expected to advocate for and promote gender considerations in the user engagement activities (particularly at consultations and needs assessment stages).
- c) Participate in project coordination meetings as needed and appropriate, and review and comment on documents issued under the project, and where necessary, prepare specific reports and recommendations in collaboration with the project staff.
- d) Where necessary, make field visits and advice, guide or co-design gender responsive service implementation plans with service leads and implementing partners.
- e) Design and implement a specific gender training and sensitization plan to be applied in RCMRD.
- f) Design and implement a series of workshops (online and in person) on gender issues among the Project implementing partners.
- g) Liaise with other USAID projects in the region, on gender related activities (workshops etc) in order to reach a wider impact among the USAID implementing partners.
- h) Participate in the implementation of annual work plans, mid-year and annual reports that describe the contribution of gender inclusivity in technical activities, including the gender perspectives as appropriate.
- i) Draft articles for the RCMRD news website on gender related events, and other communication tools (in collaboration with the Communication Specialist), seeking to increase and promote women participation in GIS and geo-spatial analysis for societal benefit.
- j) Undertake all other tasks that may be assigned by the relevant supervisor.

Qualifications and experience

- a) A Master's degree in Gender and Development Studies or a degree in social sciences (Sociology, Community Development etc) with relevant experience in the field of gender social behavior change and programming.
- b) At least three to five years' work experience in a similar position with demonstrable outputs.
- c) Experience in conducting high-quality work to generate evidence using analytical tools and practices, program design, and assessment of potential program impacts to strengthen gender and social inclusion framework, using quantitative and qualitative approaches.
- d) Ability to adapt to and work in a multi-disciplinary science biased landscape, where the input of gender aspects in various services would be felt.
- e) Demonstrable ability to conduct gender mainstreaming funded projects.

Qualified and interested candidates should submit their applications, along with a detailed Curriculum Vitae as well as copies of relevant certificates and testimonials to:

Director General,
Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development,
P.O Box 632-00618, Roysambu, Kasarani,
Nairobi - Kenya.

OR

Via email to jobs@rcmrd.org so as to be received not later than **17th December, 2020**.

All the positions are on a Two (2) years renewable contract.

RCMRD is an equal opportunity employer. Applications from suitably qualified female candidates and persons with disabilities are particularly encouraged.

Please note that the Centre DOES NOT charge any fees during the recruitment process.