



GDN Program Manager (Think tanks in the Sahel region)

The Global Development Network (GDN) is looking for an outstanding individual to manage an ambitious think tank (hereafter TT) capacity building initiative in the Sahel region. GDN believes that TTs are in a unique position to bridge different communities and impulse social change by feeding evidence into public debates around public service delivery and governance.

The new funding program (final signature by the French Development Agency *AFD* is pending) will adopt a demand-driven approach to (i) support strengthening TTs as institutions; (ii) reinforce their interactions with other TTs and relevant entities and networks in the region. The vision of the program is to support selected TTs to express their full potential in placing quality evidence on the agenda of decision-makers and in the public debate.

The GDN program manager will also facilitate the development of strategic partnerships in the region and help leveraging the results of the initiative vis-à-vis the program's main donor, national stakeholders and the international community of donors, in view of further scale-up in Africa.

About the Global Development Network

The Global Development Network (GDN) is a public international organization that supports high quality, policy-oriented, social-science research in developing and transition countries to promote better lives. It supports researchers and research institutions in these countries with additional financial resources, and further opportunities for global networking, training and peer review. GDN acts on the premise that better research leads to more informed policies and better, more inclusive development. Through its global platform, GDN connects social science researchers with policymakers and development stakeholders across the world. Founded in 1999, GDN is currently headquartered in New Delhi, India, and operates globally from its main offices in India and Europe, through a growing global team of around 25 people based in over 10 countries. New programs in cooperation with Francophone Africa will be mainly operated from GDN Europe office in Clermont-Ferrand, France.

About the position

Under the supervision of the head of GDN's Research and Programs Unit, the program officer will:

- Design and manage the selection process for TTs interested in accessing the program
- Facilitate open communication between the participating TTs at all phases of the program, with a view to facilitate cross-fertilization in the region, and learning
- Mobilize experts, mentors and advisors to provide quality support to thinks tanks and GDN upon request of the selected TTs
- Co-manage, support and monitor the implementation of grants awarded to the selected TTs

-Support the definition of an M&E framework for the initiative (including the policy, academic, media and public dimensions of TT impact)

- Lead strategic and logistical aspects of the organization of “Evidence Fairs”(high-visibility regional events with TTs, civil society, policy makers, public staff in the region with support from the GDN team)

-Collect stories of change and develop program reports for the French Development Agency

-Create visual output, such as infographics or and data dashboards with inputs from the GDN Communication team

Requirements

- o The program manager will need to have the citizenship of a country of the greater Sahel region. Having lived in several countries is an asset.
- o A Master’s degree in social science, political science, development economics or related degrees, plus at least five years of relevant working experience in managing international programs
- o At least 1 professional experience involving international donors
- o At least 1 professional experience collaborating with TTs from the region
- o At least 1 experience leading regional/multi-country events and/or policy dialogues
- o Broad interest in governance and public policies such as security, land management, education, decentralization – and ability to autonomously keep abreast of major policy developments
- o Willingness to travel internationally in the Sahel region and between the Sahel region and France
- o Motivation and ability to work remotely as part of a global team, with minimal supervision
- o Motivation to develop new skills in an expanding organization
- o Fluency in both French and in English, in writing and verbally

Conditions of employment

The proposed salary will be adapted according to past salary/seniority/ qualifications. A computer and relevant softwares will be made available to the staff member for the duration of the program. The staff will be home-based.

Duration of Contract

GDN seeks to appoint a GDN Program Manager (Think tanks in the Sahel region) for a duration of 3 years. The contract is subject to a Six months’ probation period.

Starting date

September 2022 (Hiring is conditional to the signature of the grant with AFD)

Application Procedure

Interested candidates should send the following documents in English only (GDN’s official language) via email to jobs@gdn.int:

- an updated CV highlighting relevant experiences;
- a brief cover letter (1 page) expressing their interest for this position.

Please mention “GDN Program Manager (Think tanks in the Sahel region) [YOUR NAME]” in the email header.

Applications will be accepted and reviewed on a rolling basis until August 15th.

Shortlisted candidates might be asked to sit for a language test during the selection process. Selected candidates will be asked to provide 3 professional referees for reference check.