



Land Matrix

Vacancy Announcement

Land Matrix Initiative "Partnership Coordinator"

Deadline for applications: 14 July 2017

The Land Matrix Initiative

The Land Matrix Initiative (LMI) is a global and independent initiative monitoring competition over land use in the Global South. Its goal is to facilitate an open development community of citizens, researchers, policy-makers and technology specialists to promote transparency and accountability in decisions over land and investment. The LMI has become an international innovative benchmark for its open data and development approach, database structure, web appearance, and multi-stakeholder character, and has received wide interest among policymakers, development practitioners, NGOs, the media, researchers and the informed public.

In view of enhancing the quality of the LMI, and increasing its impact on policy-dialogue and decision making, the LM is involved in a process of decentralisation and expansion. Five organizations have joined the network in June 2014 as Regional Focal Points (RFPs) in Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe and Latin America - and regional, national and thematic Land Observatories will complement the well-established LM Global Observatory that monitors and collects data on large-scale land transactions worldwide.

The Land Matrix Coordination Unit

In the framework of this expansion and decentralisation, it has been decided to establish a Land Matrix Coordination Unit (LMCU). The LMCU consists of a decentralized team of five coordinators, each of them hosted by one of the LMI partners:

1. Partnership Coordinator (hosted by the University of Pretoria, South Africa)
2. Communication Coordinator (position to be filled)
3. Data and Database Coordinator (hosted by GIGA, Germany)
4. Technical Coordinator (hosted by CDE, Switzerland)
5. Learning and Training Coordinator (hosted by ILC, Italy)

The LMCU coordinates and implements the decisions taken by the Steering Committee, holds regular virtual meetings and meets physically once in a year.

The Partnership Coordinator

The Partnership Coordinator ensures the smooth functioning of the partnership, and is responsible for organizing, monitoring and improving project activities, under the direction of the Steering Committee. The position will be based at the University of Pretoria, hosted by the Department of Agricultural Economics and the Centre for the Study of Governance Innovation. The Partnership Coordinator will count on the support of a Research Assistant.

Responsibilities

Governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow, assess and monitor day to day activities of the LMI. Monitor project calendar, planned milestones, deliverables, and activities as agreed by the Steering Committee, and alert responsible partners and collaborators to ensure the timely delivery of products and reports. • Organize monthly virtual Steering Committee meetings, including agenda, inputs and minutes. • Organize and take part at the meetings of the LMCU. • Act as intermediary and report to the Steering Committee on a monthly basis on the status of each area of coordination.
Budget, reporting and resource mobilisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervise and coordinate the implementation of the budget available at the University of Pretoria. • Get regular reports and overviews on the status of global and regional budgets, update the Steering Committee on overall resources available and coordinate their efficient use. • Identify funding opportunities and coordinate project proposal preparation. • Prepare financial and narrative reports for donors. • Encourage and ensure regional resource mobilisation.
Monitoring and Evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish and implement a system to monitor and evaluate progress and achievements under each area of work. • Regularly encourage and receive inputs and lessons learned from Partners and Regional Focal Points and, on the basis of this, recommend ways to strengthen and improve the project. • Review workflow and recommend process improvements; implement innovative concepts and tools to improve project design. • Ensure coordination of different coordinators (communication, technical, data)
Decentralisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinate and monitor the activities of RFPs and ensure smooth functioning of the LMI across regions, and between global and regional activities. • Monitor the activities of RFPs and ensure they engage in networking and resource mobilisation. • Follow up the establishment of Land Observatories. • Organize regular internal feedback and reporting from RFPs; ensure that the views and suggestions of RFPs are properly taken into account. • Ensure consistent decentralization of the project across regions and areas of work (data collection, communication, research). • In collaboration with the Learning Coordinator, promote region-to-region collaboration, exchange of best practices and lessons learned
Communications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Act as a public relations officer for the LMI and serve as one of the official spokespersons for the project
Networking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foster, strengthen and coordinate collaborations with relevant initiatives and organizations at international, national and local level - in coordination with Partners and Regional Focal Points. • Support the identification and maintenance of contacts with relevant stakeholders; proactively seek opportunities to further develop the network and establish beneficial collaboration. • Regularly reports to the Steering Committee on the status of the network and planned activities.

Expected skills and competencies

- Post-graduate degree in a relevant discipline, with at least five years' post-qualification relevant experience at the professional level.
- Project coordination and management experience, including budget management and reporting.
- Knowledge of issues, trends and policies around the phenomenon of large-scale land acquisitions is an added advantage.
- Self-motivated, disciplined, able to work effectively with minimal supervision within a multi-cultural environment.
- Availability and willingness to travel.
- Excellent written and spoken English is essential. Fluency in French and/or Spanish is an added advantage.
- Demonstrable advanced oral and written communication skills.
- Excellent computer literacy and familiarity with web-based tools and project management platforms.

Position and salary

The Partnership Coordinator will be based in Pretoria (South Africa), hosted by the Department of Agricultural Economics, Extension & Rural Development. The position will be at project manager level of the University of Pretoria. The overall compensation package is ZAR 500.000 per year.

Term and starting date

Although this is a long-term position, current available funding covers an 18-month contract. Efforts by the Partnership Coordinator will be in part to fundraise in order to cover the costs for the following years.

Starting date: September 2017.

How to Apply

Please send an updated CV and motivation letter to Ward Anseeuw (w.anseeuw@landcoalition.org) and Silvia Forno (s.forno@landcoalition.info) by July 14 indicating your availability. Please note we will respond to short-listed candidates only.