

## **AGRA Watch Organizer Job Description**

**Application Due:** August 12, 2016

**Location:** Seattle, WA

**Start Date:** Sept 19, 2016

**Contract:** 15 hours/week, \$18/hour

### **About AGRA Watch:**

AGRA Watch is a campaign of Community Alliance for Global Justice (CAGJ). CAGJ is a volunteer led, membership-based organization founded in 2001 by Seattle-area activists who helped to organize the historic shutdown of the World Trade Organization meeting in 1999. Our mission is to educate and mobilize individuals and organizations to strengthen local economies everywhere. We are grassroots, community-based and committed to anti-oppressive organizing as we build solidarity across diverse movements. Focusing on the food system, we seek to transform unjust trade and agricultural policies and practices imposed by corporations, governments and other institutions while creating and supporting alternatives that embody social justice, sustainability, diversity and grassroots democracy.

The mission of AGRA Watch is to challenge the dominant development ideology pushed by governments, corporations, and philanthropic actors as they try to expand our corporate-driven, industrial model of agriculture into Africa. Chief among these actors is the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) and its subsidiary, the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA). AGRA Watch makes use of its location in Seattle, where the Foundation is headquartered, for special leverage, and works with partner organizations in Africa and the US to support sustainable, agroecological, socially responsible, and indigenous alternatives on the continent.

### **About the position:**

AGRA Watch is looking for a dynamic organizer with experience in transnational coordination, writing, and strategic analysis. The core responsibility of the AGRA Watch Organizer will be to move forward the AGRA Watch campaign's objectives; these are collectively defined by the AGRA Watch committee in collaboration with our African partners. This position is characterized by diverse and changing opportunities, including local actions attracting mainstream media, cultivating partnerships with other US-based organizations, and transnational organizing with partners on the African continent. A key component of the job will entail writing and editing research reports, op-eds, short articles, and online pieces with the group's research and analysis.

Plans for the coming year include strategic planning, possible travel to Africa to meet with some of our partners, evaluating our GMO banana campaign, planning for our 2017 Agroecology Exchange in South Africa, and increasing efforts to expose the G7 Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition.

### **Primary responsibilities**

1. The AGRA Watch Organizer is responsible to CAGJ's Executive Director. The organizer works with the AGRA Watch committee to develop and implement campaign plans, focusing on priorities set during the 2014 Africa-US Food Sovereignty Strategy Summit.
2. Evaluate progress and identify priorities according to longterm campaign goals and objectives, and maintain short-term workplans.
3. Draft research reports and prepare them for publication in leading movement journals and progressive news outlets.
4. Lead fundraising efforts for AGRA Watch, including cultivating donors and grant writing.
5. Support AGRA Watch committee recruitment, and intern coordination.
6. Support organization of actions, including strategizing, working with mainstream and social media, drafting flyers, coordinating volunteers.
7. Update and maintain communications, including printed brochures, website, Facebook, Blog, and Twitter.

## Required Qualifications

- Familiarity with the principles of food justice and food sovereignty, and demonstrated commitment to these movements in US and Global South.
- Commitment to anti-oppression principles.
- At least two years experience (volunteer or paid) working with grassroots, volunteer-based, community organizations.
- Proven ability to work collaboratively with others, in a shared leadership role.
- Proven ability to write effectively for a broad audience on political issues and meet deadlines.
- Strong interpersonal skills, sound judgment, self-motivated and ability to motivate others.
- Excellent written and oral communication skills.
- Strong organizational skills and ability to track multiple projects simultaneously.
- Ability to work some evenings and weekends.
- One year minimum commitment.

## Desired Qualifications

- Familiarity with current issues related to African food sovereignty (ie. GMOs, Biosafety laws, seed sovereignty, philanthrocapitalism etc).
- Experience with strategic planning for grassroots organizations.
- Experience organizing actions and generating media, specifically through means such as press releases, media interviews and social media campaigns.
- Effective group facilitation skills.
- Familiarity with Wordpress, document sharing and collaboration tools such as Google Drive, and presentation tools such as Powerpoint or Prezi.
- Experience with public speaking.
- Ability to travel occasionally to national and international conferences.
- French language ability (in addition to other languages spoken in Africa).

**Compensation and Start Date:** This position is part-time, with the possibility of increased hours as funds become available, and will offer a competitive salary based on experience. It begins September 19, 2016.

CAGJ is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. People of color, women, queer folks, and people with disabilities are encouraged to apply.

**Please note:** CAGJ is currently hiring for 2 part-time positions, CAGJ Organizing Director and AGRA Watch Organizer. Both positions are posted on [CAGJ's website](#). Qualified candidates may apply for both positions. As a grant-funded, part-time position, the AGRA Watch Organizer will be paid as a consultant. The Organizing Director position is salaried. If we hire one person for both positions, the new hire will receive a salary. *Please clearly indicate in your cover letter which job(s) you are applying for.*

**How to apply for AGRA Watch Organizer:** Please submit resume, cover letter, short writing sample, (2-3 pages, ideally something written for the general public), and 3 references by 5pm August 12, 2016 to [contact\\_us@cagj.org](mailto:contact_us@cagj.org).