Job offer

Task Officer for Information and Economic Analysis on Tropical Agriculture in

Sub-Saharan Africa

Nitidæ

Nitidæ is a French association whose main objective is to design, develop and implement projects that combine environmental conservation with the strengthening of local economies in rural areas of southern countries. Its initiatives focus on preserving forests and ecosystems (reducing deforestation), strengthening agricultural value chains and improving the energy efficiency of processing. Nitidæ also provides technical expertise to agri-food and cosmetics companies wishing to improve the performance of their supply chains, mitigate their environmental impact and stimulate local economic development in conjunction with producer organisations.

Nitidæ is currently leading around 30 projects, mainly in Madagascar, Burkina Faso, Mozambique, Côte d'Ivoire, Senegal and Cameroon. Its team consists of more than 200 employees (economists, engineers, agronomists, foresters, geographers, soil carbon specialists, GIS and remote sensing experts) spread across the countries of operation and the head office in France. In 2024, the association's budget was €8,000,000.

N'Kalô

N'Kalô is an independent agricultural market information and advisory service that mainly targets the African continent. This service was developed by Nitidæ in 2009 to address the low transparency, information asymmetries and significant commercial risks faced by farmers and businesses in the agricultural sector in West Africa.

N'Kalô is currently established in 13 African countries (mainly in West Africa, but also in Mozambique and Madagascar) and monitors nine sectors (cashew nuts, sesame, shea, gum arabic, peanuts, cocoa, rice, maize and soya). Twenty analysts in different countries are involved in market analysis and content writing. N'Kalô is considered the leading source of information in Africa and worldwide on the cashew, sesame, shea and gum arabic markets.

N'Kalô attempts to combine objectives that can sometimes be contradictory:

- on the one hand, to remain independent and economically self-sufficient by producing paid content (subscriptions, advice and data on demand);
- on the other hand, informing and advising as many people as possible, particularly poor rural populations in sub-Saharan Africa who find it difficult to pay for access to information;

To meet this dual objective, the service produces two main types of content: paid economic reports; and free short messages and videos, mainly distributed via WhatsApp. In order to continue developing the N'Kalô service and improve its ability to fulfil its two objectives, Nitidæ is looking for an economic information and analysis officer. The officer will be required to combine the informational and commercial development of the service (a priority during the first six months) with agro-economic analysis, for which they will be gradually trained by the rest of the Nitidæ teams.

Position activities

N'Kalô is looking for a new international analyst to join its N'Kalô team. This person will be responsible for:

- 1. Economic analysis and content creation:
 - o Weekly analysis of the cashew nut market worldwide and in Africa
 - o Analysis of other tropical agricultural markets to be defined (needs, pace and products)
 - o Monitoring economic news in West Africa and agricultural market news
 - o **Extracting and processing data** (prices, trade flows, production, climate data) for the needs of the N'Kalô service, subscribers and Nitidæ teams
- 2. <u>Information and commercial development:</u> 70% for the first 6 months, then 40%
 - o **Information development**: benchmarking of competing and similar services (specialised media, economic intelligence services, agricultural media), proposals for changes to the format of free content (targeted at small farmers) and paid content (targeted at traders, agribusinesses and institutions), proposals for new information media (breaking news, campaign reviews, databases, on-demand market updates)
 - o **Commercial development**: proposals for strategies and tools to increase the number of subscribers to the free and paid services, communication strategies and tools, proposals for updating the website, identification of appropriate solutions for subscription management/payment and subscriber management, external communication
- 3. <u>Service coordination and development:</u>
 - o Internal management and structuring of the media: coordination of the team of national analysts (15 people), preparation and facilitation of coordination meetings, monitoring of the regularity/punctuality of report publication, development of tools to improve the fluidity of interactions and the punctuality of information sharing by national analysts
 - o **Fundraising**: responding to calls for tenders and prospecting among public development aid and international solidarity actors to develop the "impact" aspect of the service for the general public

Initially, the recruited person will be primarily responsible for managing the cashew nut report, working on the informational development of the service and participating in discussions concerning the commercial development of the service. He/she will then gradually take on the coordination and structuring of the service and the search for funding as part of his/her activities.

The recruited person will be affiliated with Nitidæ's *Markets & Value chains* division and, in their spare time, will be able to participate in the division's other activities (responding to calls for tenders, participating in consultancies, supporting project teams in the countries of intervention). Depending on opportunities, collaboration with members of other technical divisions (*Agroecological transitions*, *Energies & Infrastructures*, *N'Lab*) will be possible.

Required profile/skills

- Education:
 - o Agro-economics, economics or economic journalism
- Experience:
 - o Experience in the agricultural sector, supply management, public policy related to agricultural markets and/or
 - o Experience in facilitating or developing specialised media (agriculture, economics, finance, public policy) and/or
 - o Experience in tropical agriculture, preferably in West Africa
 - o Experience in data processing, particularly customs statistics and national statistics
- Languages:
 - o Very good spoken and written command of French and English (writing in both languages)
 - o Basic knowledge of Portuguese or Mandarin would be a plus
- Desired qualities:
 - o Interest in economics, the functioning of global agricultural markets, and local, national and international agri-food organisations
 - o Interest in economic and social development issues and the fight against poverty
 - o Interest in agricultural and environmental issues
 - o Good writing skills, ability to summarise
 - o Autonomy
 - o Curiosity, critical thinking, multidisciplinarity and an interest in complex issues and challenges
 - o Enjoy working in a multicultural environment, sense of humour

Type of contract and assignment

- Type of contract: one-year fixed-term contract with the possibility of conversion to a permanent contract (under French law)
- Assignment:
 - o Lyon
 - o Possibility of working remotely (max. 3 days per week)
 - o Regular travel to Africa
- Desired start date:
 - o Between November 2025 and January 2026
- Remuneration:
 - o Depending on profile and experience, €32,000 to €36,000 gross per annum (salary scale based on the SYNTEC collective agreement)
 - o Possible profit-sharing bonus depending on the association's results
- Benefits:
 - o Fixed daily rate contract with 214 working days per year (between 10 and 14 days of compensatory time per year in addition to paid leave)
 - o Meal vouchers (€11 covered 50% by the employer)
 - Excellent health insurance
 - o 50% public transport
- Other working conditions to be discussed during the interview

Application

If you are interested in this position, please send your CV and cover letter by email no later than 15 November to p.ricau@nitidae.org and f.griffon@nitidae.org with the subject line: « Candidature N'Kalô».

If you do not receive a response from us within two weeks of the deadline, you may assume that your application has not been successful.