

**Position: Research and advocacy officer
African Centre for Biodiversity (ACB)**



The African Centre for Biodiversity (ACB) is a registered NPO working on the African continent, and is based in South Africa. The ACB is committed to dismantling inequalities in the food and agriculture systems in Africa and to promoting agro-ecology and food sovereignty as feasible alternatives.

The ACB seeks to employ a self-motivated, independent, critical and analytical thinker to join our dynamic team to support research and advocacy focusing on our three programmes: Biosafety and genetically modified organisms (GMOs), seed sovereignty, and resisting corporate power in the agro-food system. More information on ACB's work and policies can be found at www.acbio.org.za.

The position will involve South and East African work on the following:

- Desktop and field research;
- Monitoring and analysing trends in the three programme areas;
- Producing high quality research materials for use in communication and advocacy in ACB's fields of work;
- Working closely in ACB teams on tasks defined by ACB's organisational plans on research, advocacy and communications;
- Contributing to seminars, workshops, meetings, campaigns and network building;
- Informing, supporting and contributing to organisational communications and advocacy strategies and activities.

Minimum requirements:

- A recognised social science Masters' degree;
- A minimum of 5 years of relevant and related research and advocacy experience in some combination of the following areas: biosafety, GMOs, seed, seed law and policy, smallholder farmers, agroecology, political ecology;
- Proven analytical and English writing skills (based on writing samples);
- Ability to work independently and to tight deadlines with minimal supervision;
- Ability to work well in teams;
- Good computer skills including word documents and web research;
- A valid drivers' licence.

Experience in any of the following will be an advantage:

- A history of social/environmental activism;
- Work with a diversity of social actors, including smallholder farmers;
- Policy engagement at national or regional levels;
- Participatory action research methodologies;
- Ability to speak another language in SADC apart from English.

The successful candidate will be based in Johannesburg *but with significant regional travel*. Costs of relocation can be negotiated if necessary.

ACB has an Employment Equity policy in place, and is committed to racial and gender equality in our divided and unequal society. Preference will therefore be given to black African and women candidates. Citizens from Southern Africa are encouraged to apply.

The candidate must be a good fit with ACB's organisational culture and ACB reserves the right not to hire anybody to the position. We are looking for someone who is decisive, self-motivated, a critical thinker, with initiative, ability to learn quickly, flexible and able to work under pressure in a dynamic environment, and who works well in teams.

Salary is at competitive market rates in the NPO sector.