

Communications officer

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 dynamic, self-motivated, proactive, independent, critical and analytical thinker to join our dynamic team to support communications 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 entails taking care of the front end of ACB's communications work, and will involve assisting with the development and implementation of an organisational communications strategy, working closely in ACB teams to:

- Record and document ACB work and activities in multiple formats (e.g. video, written);
- Proactively identify audiences for ACB's work, develop the appropriate channels to reach these audiences,
- develop key messages from ACB work for communication and advocacy, and package ACB content to suit various channels of communication to diverse audiences.

And to:

- Facilitate the dissemination of ACB's work and advocacy across all forms of media at local, national, regional and Pan-African, and international levels;
- Develop and increase online and social and other media presence and interest in ACB's areas of work;
- Improve the visibility and image of the ACB, increasing public awareness on current issues.

Minimum requirements:

- A recognised media or journalism qualification, minimum Bachelors' degree;
- A minimum of 4 years of experience in media or journalism;
- Proven 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 (writing, web research, video editing);
- A valid drivers' license.

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.

The successful candidate will be based in Johannesburg and will work from ACB's office, with some 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.

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.

Interested parties should send a CV, a one page motivation as to why you are suitable for the position, what you will bring to the work of the ACB, and samples of work (written or video).