

MONITORING & EVALUATION COORDINATOR

Summary of the Organization

Guatemala has the highest rate of malnutrition in the Western Hemisphere, with nearly half of all children suffering from stunted growth and 40% of the population with a significant zinc deficiency. We work with international institutions, farmers, and the government to develop corn varieties with higher yields, better taste, and increased nutritional value – referred to generally as biofortified corn. Biofortified corn allows farmers and families to continue growing and eating their traditional staple, while dramatically improving the nutrition of their children and the food system.

We scale high-zinc, Quality Protein Maize through our own commercial sales venture and through collaborations with local seed production companies, NGOs, and the government. In December 2017, we launched sales for the first time— selling out of our inventory by May. We reached over 1,000 farmers and we estimate that they will be able to produce enough maize to account for the annual consumption of more than 63,000 Guatemalans.

In addition, our work has led to rapid growth and international recognition, including some of the leading awards in social entrepreneurship. We expect to reach over a million individuals over the next five years.

Summary of the Position

We are currently seeking a Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Coordinator to oversee the program design and impact assessment of our intervention. Our M&E team has worked this past year to develop a greater understanding of our program’s nutritional, economic, and value chain outcomes. We are looking for an experienced individual to continue this work into the coming year, develop relationships with external research partners (both in-country and abroad), and to lay the foundation for evidence generation and data collection. The selected individual will play a key role in shaping Semilla Nueva’s program strategy and will collaborate in producing cutting-edge evidence for a nationally scalable intervention.

The position will be based primarily in Semilla Nueva’s main office in Guatemala City. It will require occasional travel to rural parts of Guatemala to coordinate research activities and collect field information.

Qualifications

Required:

- Degree in nutrition, agricultural development, or other related field OR 3+ years of experience in monitoring or program management for nutritional/agricultural value chain interventions
- Strong research experience (qualitative, quantitative, research design, and survey administration)
- Data analysis (strong Excel skills and experience with statistical analysis)
- Spanish-English bilingual
- Strong communication and external relationship management experience
- Demonstrated leadership, stress-management, and flexibility in the work environment

Desired:

- Master’s degree in relevant field
- Non-profit program design/research experience
- Experience working with food fortification or biofortification interventions
- Technical knowledge of micronutrient deficiencies
- Significant international work/education experience

Expectations

- Full-time position based in Guatemala City
- Ability to work independently, proactively, and prioritize/coordinate a variety of activities
- Ability to creatively problem-solve in difficult work environments
- Must be comfortable traveling to and staying in rural parts of Guatemala with difficult living conditions.

Specific Tasks

1. Program Research: This past year Semilla Nueva has made significant progress in gathering program research and building the foundation for evidence generation in the coming months. The selected candidate will continue to develop our models for estimating nutritional deficiencies closed through consumption of our maize, mapping value chain movement of grain, and selecting indicators for program evaluation.

2. External Relationship Maintenance/Building: Semilla Nueva hopes to leverage external expertise and existing data collection to develop a reliable, research-backed monitoring and evaluation system and to begin generating more evidence for our work. The incoming M&E Coordinator will collaborate with current and potential partnerships that will foster data-sharing and rigorous evidence generation.

3. Support Program Monitoring and Evidence Generation: The incoming M&E Coordinator will be expected to administer small-scale, annual, surveys of constituents to assess economic impact, customer retention, maize consumption patterns, and other program outcomes as needed. In addition, the M&E Coordinator will support studies and RCTs that are being administered by external entities to assess effectiveness of our work.

Beginning Date: ASAP

Salary: Competitive local salary, dependent on experience

Before applying, please review our website, blog, and annual reports which are found at www.semillanueva.org

To apply please send a cover letter explaining your interest in Semilla Nueva and the position, along with an updated, detailed CV to trabajo@semillanueva.org. Please note "M&E Coordinator" in the subject line.