

WE ARE HIRING

CROP RESEARCH OFFICER

In 2017, Koa had a brilliant idea of how to contribute to sustainable growth in rural Ghana. The Ghanaian-Swiss start-up was born from a sophisticated concept, innovative processes and a lot of passion. Koa is the first cocoa fruit processor in West Africa and makes use of the pulp of the cocoa pods, thus reducing food waste and enabling Ghanaian cocoa farmers to earn an additional income. Koa's first factory has a capacity of 300 tons and the second factory has 2,500 tons. Today, over 100 employees in Ghana and Switzerland dedicate themselves to the growth of Koa to boost value creation in the cocoa-growing regions and to develop innovative and pioneering processes. Are you passionate about social impact? Join the Koa team now.

LET'S SUM IT UP!

The Research Officer is responsible for conducting research and implementing cocoa cultivation, production, sustainability projects and cocoa predictions. He/she conducts field trials, analyses data, and collaborates with various stakeholders to enhance cocoa farming practices, improve yield, and ensure sustainable growth and availability for production.

RESPONSIBILITIES

- **Research Planning, Design & Implementation**
- Develop research plans and experimental designs to address key issues in cocoa cultivation, yield improvement, and quality enhancement.
- Organize and conduct field trials with the Cocoa Health & Extension Division (CHED, Cocobod) to evaluate new cultivation techniques and agrochemicals.
- Collaborate with Agricultural programs lead, farmer training and organic officers to identify research priorities and objectives.
- **Crop Prediction**
- Lead in developing a prediction tool to enhance cocoa availability for production
- **Optimization of yield and longevity of farming**
- Planning of strategic projects and activities to improve crop yields at Koa's farms
- Implement a Lighthouse Agricultural Practices Concept (incl. pruning, fertilizer, pollination, etc.) to optimise raw material yields
- Implement data collection protocols, including data on crop yield, disease incidence, soil characteristics, and climate variables.
- **Pre- & Post-harvest activities**
- Derive and continuously improve the implementation of the LAPC concept in Koa's farms
- Assist in monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the LAPC practices and fermentation processes of farmers
- Assist the Agricultural Programs lead in prescribing a data collection approach in cooperation with the IT & Data departments.
- **Stakeholder Management**
- Collaborate with local farmers, cooperatives, governmental agencies, NGOs, and industry partners to foster strong relationships and ensure the successful execution of research programs.
- Coordinate and represent Koa in the relationships with external stakeholders related to agricultural research practices where possible.
- Assist in coordinating the internal and external stakeholders in all agro-services-related matters

- **Farmer Management**
- Assist the agricultural program lead in developing agro-farmer training concepts and related manuals
- Foster positive relationships with local communities and stakeholders.
- Address concerns and collaborate with

farmers to build a strong and supportive farming community.

Project Management

- Collaborate with the project management team(s) when required by providing supervisory assistance and coordination.

REPORTING

The Research Officer reports to the Agricultural Programs Lead

JOB REQUIREMENT

ACADEMIC QUALIFICATION

- Bachelor's or Master's degree in general agriculture, soil science, agronomy, environmental science or related natural science at university or college level

WORK EXPERIENCE

- Min. 3+ years work experience in related field
- Strong analytical skills
- In-depth knowledge of experimental designs, data collection and analysis.
- Proficient in the use of computer applications and systems (Microsoft Office suits)
- Ability to ride a motorbike with a valid license

COMPETENCE AND SKILLS

- Fluency in both verbal and written English and Twi
- Good leadership skills
- Project and resource management
- Good communication skills



Interested applicants should send their resume with the job title as the subject to careers.gh@koa-impact.com not later than **26th April 2024**. Early applications are preferred. The targeted starting date is **1st July 2024**, job Location is **Akim Achiase** in the Eastern Region of Ghana.

KOA

Certified



Corporation