



CAG JD: Project Manager – Climate Resilient Agriculture

Citizen consumer and civic Action Group (CAG) is a non-profit, non-political and professional organisation that works towards protecting citizens' rights in consumer and environmental issues and promoting good governance processes including transparency, accountability and participatory decision-making.

Project description

CAG is anchoring the Alliance for Climate Resilient Agriculture (ACRA), a decentralised, multi-state collaborative working to advance agroecology and climate-resilient agriculture (CRA) across Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Maharashtra, and Bihar. The initiative brings together farmer groups, Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs), civil society organisations, research institutions, and local government bodies into state-level networks, linked through an inter-state platform for shared learning, collaboration, and policy advocacy.

The project combines network building, participatory action research, capacity building, state-level pilots, and institutional engagement to make agroecological practice locally relevant, farmer-led, and grounded in the realities of each region. In Tamil Nadu, CAG implements the work directly in association with Asar. In Maharashtra, Bihar, and Kerala, activities are implemented by partner organisations, with CAG anchoring and coordinating the alliance as a whole.

Responsibilities

The Project Manager – Climate Resilient Agriculture will lead the planning, implementation, and delivery of the project, coordinate across the four-state alliance, and manage CAG's responsibilities as the anchoring organisation. In Tamil Nadu, the role involves direct implementation of project activities in association with Asar. In Maharashtra, Bihar, and Kerala, it involves overseeing, coordinating, and supporting activities led by partner organisations. The role combines programme management, partner coordination, field engagement, and grant management, and requires regular travel across the project states.

The Project Manager will be responsible for the following:

- Lead overall project planning and implementation against the agreed work plan, timeline, and targets
- Lead direct implementation of project activities in Tamil Nadu, in association with Asar
- Oversee, coordinate, and support the activities of partner organisations in Maharashtra, Bihar, and Kerala, tracking progress against agreed plans and deliverables
- Convene and coordinate the core team anchoring the alliance across the four states
- Organise and facilitate project convenings, including the network initiation meeting, national consultation, and regional and state-level consultations
- Oversee participatory research and documentation, including focus group discussions, participatory rural appraisals, vulnerability mapping, and state-specific case studies and best-practice records
- Coordinate the setting up and running of farmer-facilitated co-creation centres (Kisan Gyan Vigyan Kendras) for testing community-led, nature-based CRA models
- Plan and oversee capacity-building workshops for FPOs, women's collectives, grassroots government officials, and media
- Coordinate state-level pilot initiatives integrating weather forecasting, organic inputs, natural resource management, value chains, and inter-departmental convergence
- Lead and coordinate institutional engagement and advocacy across the states, including state policy briefs and consultations with state climate cells and agriculture and allied departments
- Engage with stakeholders including farmer groups, FPOs, panchayats, government agencies, research institutions, media, and civil society
- Manage the grant, including budget tracking, partner coordination, documentation, and timely reporting to the donor
- Oversee project communications and knowledge products, including articles, blog posts, policy briefs, training manuals, and newsletters
- Supervise and support project staff and field coordinators, and maintain records of meetings, consultations, and activities
- Monitor progress, document learnings and challenges, and ensure achievement of project outcomes

Education

- Postgraduate in Agriculture, Agroecology, Environmental Science, Natural Resource Management, Development Studies, Public Policy, Social Work, or related fields
- Additional training in project management or the project cycle is an advantage

Work Experience

- At least 5 years of experience in the development sector, with demonstrated experience in project management
- Experience in agroecology, climate-resilient agriculture, sustainable agriculture, natural resource management, or allied areas preferred

- Experience managing or coordinating partner organisations, sub-grantees, or multi-stakeholder networks across locations
- Experience working with FPOs, farmer collectives, panchayats, and government departments would be an advantage
- Experience in grant management and donor reporting

Competencies

Professionalism: Knowledge and understanding of agroecology, climate-resilient agriculture, and the policy and institutional environment in which they sit

Leadership: Sets direction, takes ownership of delivery, and supports and motivates the project team and partners

Project management: Plans, organises, and tracks activities, budgets, and timelines, and manages competing priorities to deliver results

Stakeholder management: Builds and sustains working relationships across farmer groups, partner organisations, and government

Teamwork: Works collaboratively with colleagues and partners to achieve organisational goals

Communication: Speaks and writes clearly and effectively, listens to others, clearly interprets messages, openness in sharing information and keeps people informed

Planning: Develops clear goals that are consistent with agreed strategies, identifies and adjusts priorities, time management, makes contingencies while planning

Analytical ability: Simplifies, visualises, articulates and solves complex tasks by making logical and sensible deductions with the available (often limited) information

Location

- Based in Chennai, with direct fieldwork in Tamil Nadu and periodic travel to the partner states (Maharashtra, Bihar, and Kerala) for oversight and convenings

As a CAG employee, you can expect to

- be respected for who you are;
- be recognised and rewarded on ability and merit for your contributions;
- learn a wide range of skills in research, communications, finance, information and communication technology;
- be encouraged and supported to fulfil your potential through meaningful work that matters;
- work with great colleagues who are smart, mission-driven, and collaborative; and
- enjoy a welcoming workplace free from harassment, discrimination, and intolerance.

- You would be a part of a team that is notable in its efforts to influence policy, open minds, shape decisions, offer solutions, and improve lives.

Interested?

If you are interested in exploring a career with CAG, please write to the Executive Director, Saroja at saroja@cag.org.in. Please share your most recent resume, links to samples of your work, and a motivation letter explaining why you would like to work at CAG.