

## **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

**Position Title:** Senior Partnerships and Funder Engagement Lead

**Programme/Hub:** ARA

**Monthly Salary :** R75,000 – R85,000

**Duration:** 1 June 2023 until 1 June 2024 (possibility for extension)

**Location: Based in the Global South**

### **About SouthSouthNorth**

SouthSouthNorth (SSN) supports national and regional responses to climate change through policy and knowledge interventions, partnerships and deep collaboration. We do this by connecting people and information, enhancing capability and mobilising resources to respond innovatively to the challenges and opportunities that climate change presents. Being positioned in the Global South affords SSN a deeper understanding of, and connection to, the climate and development challenges facing the region. We enhance developing countries' access to climate information by brokering climate knowledge through formalised exchanges among various stakeholders. We assist decision-makers in delivering climate compatible development by informing policy formulation and implementation. We bring good governance to the management of donor funds, technical assistance and project management.

Full details of the projects that SSN currently implements are available at [www.southsouthnorth.org](http://www.southsouthnorth.org).

### **Background on ARA**

The Adaptation Research Alliance (ARA) is a global collaborative effort to catalyse increased investment and capacity for action-orientated research that supports effective adaptation to climate change – primarily in developing countries – at the scale and urgency demanded by the science. The ARA aims to promote evidence-based solutions that best serve those most vulnerable to climate change. This requires an agile ecosystem of action research, with alignment among all influential actors in this nexus: action funders, research funders, policy-makers, beneficiaries on the frontlines of climate change, researchers and intermediaries.

Through targeted advocacy, creative cooperation and scaled resource delivery, the Alliance will ensure that the most pressing knowledge needs for adaptation and resilience actions are effectively addressed, and that measurable progress and evidence of the effectiveness of past and ongoing adaptation interventions are at hand. This includes accelerated and scaled investment in developing countries for action-oriented and user-centred research, in ways that build long-term institutional and human capacity, and help transform the research process, ensuring high quality research that has wider ownership and greater practical impact.

More details of the ARA are available at: [www.adaptationresearchalliance.org](http://www.adaptationresearchalliance.org)

### **Role Summary:**

- In this role, as a senior staff of the ARA Secretariat you will lead on engagement with funders (bilateral, philanthropic and private sector) and other strategic partners to encourage their support for the ARA and secure ambitious resourcing commitments for both the ARA and action research programmes. You will also lead on engagement with partner organizations and initiatives to develop and deliver programs advancing the ARA's mission. This will involve coordinating with all necessary stakeholders, including the ARA co-chairs and Steering Board.

### **Roles and responsibilities**

- Develop and deliver a funding strategy that looks to mobilise resources from bilateral, philanthropic and private sector actors for adaptation research that is action-oriented and update ARA targets annually.
- Hold relationships with multiple high-level contacts, in particular from international and national funders of development and research, with the aim of encouraging their support for ARA developed activities and core ARA Secretariat costs.
- Ongoing engagement with key partners and affiliated programmes to ensure that opportunities for deeper collaboration are harnessed and to maximize collective impact and realizing ARA mission and theory of change. Flag opportunities for further involvement and co-financing.
- Track status of funding and partnerships discussions or meetings and manage delivery of follow up actions to ensure that steady progress is made.
- Convene funders' roundtable at least twice a year (in person and virtual) with support of the ARA Secretariat team. Facilitate the roundtable and prepare substantively for the sessions.

- Oversee generation of evidence establishing the value of action research and the Adaptation Research for Impact Principles and ensure that it is delivered to relevant policy audiences
- This position will report to the Head of the ARA Secretariat.

## **Skill and Experience Requirements**

### **Essential**

- Articulate, charismatic and engaging individual with a track record of engagement with senior leaders across a range of sectors, ideally with funders.
- Experience of managing a network of relationships and coordination of stakeholders, ideally within in the climate space.
- In-depth understanding of the challenges faced in the Global South to access research funding resources.
- Excellent organizational skills to manage multiple strands of work and ability to work independently and in a team
- Excellent communication skills, verbally and in writing, especially with policy audiences.
- Ability to attend to details; meticulous
- Proficiency in basic Microsoft suite, including Word, Excel, and PowerPoint

### **Desirable**

- Advantageous to have experience working on adaptation or adaptation research projects in developing countries
- Desirable to have experience in UNFCCC negotiations processes but not essential.
- Desirable language skills: French and Spanish; other UN languages will be valued

### **Qualifications:**

- Relevant university degree related to international development, climate and environment, public policy
- Preferably 7 or more years of relevant work experience.

## **Application process**

To apply, please complete the following : [Application form](#) where you include at least one of the following:

- **Example of working in a working multi-stakeholder environment**
- **Example of working in a fast-paced policy environment**
- **Including a writing sample (e.g. policy brief or advocacy piece),**

Applications will close at **midnight 11 June 2023**.. Shortlisted candidates will be contacted within two weeks of the closing date. If you are not contacted within this time period, please consider your application unsuccessful. Unfortunately, we are not able to offer feedback on any application made for this job posting.

SSN reserves the right not to make an appointment.