

Call for applications

Agriculture and Markets Specialist

Organization

Socodevi is a Canadian network of cooperative and mutual enterprises that shares its technical expertise and practical know-how with partners in developing countries. Our mission is to improve the living conditions of the communities we support in a tangible and sustainable way.

Workplace

Hanoi, Vietnam.

Duration of assignment

August 2026 – December 2029 (12-month initial contract)

Contract Type

The position is for Vietnamese nationals only.

Project Description

Socodevi Vietnam is looking for a qualified candidate to take on the position of Agriculture and Markets Specialist. The successful candidate will work directly with local partners and communities to support the implementation of the BLOOM project (Biodiversity and Livelihood Opportunities for Ethnic Minority Women), a Global Affairs Canada-funded initiative (2025–2030) that promotes biodiversity conservation and inclusive livelihoods in Tuyen Quang and Dak Lak provinces. The project's ultimate goal is to improve the health of key ecosystems to support biodiversity and climate change adaptation with a focus on ethnic minority women and their communities in Tuyen Quang and Dak Lak provinces.

Key Expected Results:

- **Outcome 1100:** Increased adoption by ethnic minority women and their communities of gender-sensitive nature-based solutions (NbS) that protect the ecological integrity of Key Biodiversity Areas for conservation and climate adaptation.
- **Outcome 1200:** Increased sustainable use of Key Biodiversity Areas by ethnic minority women who are especially vulnerable to climate change impacts.

- **Outcome 1300:** Enhanced participation and influence of ethnic minority women in shaping governance, policies, and programs related to Key Biodiversity Areas that are critical for biodiversity targets and climate resilience.

What Success Looks Like for Us

- **Climate-Resilient Value Chains:** Ethnic minority women and their communities successfully adopt and scale Livelihoods that actively protect the ecological integrity of Key Biodiversity Areas.
- **Market-Oriented Cooperatives or Farmer Groups:** Local agricultural cooperatives or farmer groups demonstrate inclusive strong, direct commercial linkages with private sector lead buyers.
- **Gender-Inclusive Market Access:** Value chain strategies and market opportunities are explicitly designed around the specific constraints and realities of ethnic minority women, significantly increasing their participation and income.
- **Sustainable Land Use:** Agricultural production and commercialization activities are seamlessly blended with conservation priorities, ensuring economic livelihoods do not compromise forest management and biodiversity targets.
- **Practical Field Tools:** Complex agricultural and market systems development concepts are translated into simple, usable tools and training materials tailored perfectly to local literacy levels and upland landscape dynamics.
- **Effective Budget Management:** Project interventions and designated budgets are managed efficiently, transparently, and in strict compliance with donor (Global Affairs Canada) and Socodevi financial guidelines.

Position and Reporting Lines

The Agriculture and Markets Specialist leads the design, implementation, monitoring, and adaptation of the BLOOM project's sustainable livelihood and market-related activities. The Specialist works directly with ethnic minority women, agricultural cooperatives or groups, and private sector actors to develop inclusive, climate-resilient value chains and promote Agri-Nature based Solutions (Agri-NbS). Operating with a high degree of technical independence, the role focuses on translating sustainable agriculture and market systems development concepts into practical field activities, simple tools, and robust market linkages that tangibly improve community livelihoods and support biodiversity conservation.

Reporting Lines

While the Agriculture and Markets Specialist operates with a high degree of technical independence, the role reports to and is guided by the project's senior leadership:

- **Direct Report / Supervision:** On a day-to-day basis, works under the direct guidance of the Technical Team Leader to ensure all strategies align with project goals.
- **Technical Guidance:** Coordinates occasionally with Socodevi HQ technical advisors to maintain consistency with institutional frameworks and standards, where applicable

Internal stakeholders

The position requires a highly collaborative, multidisciplinary approach. The Specialist works closely with the internal project team to sequence and technically align field activities:

- **Technical Specialists:** Work with other technical specialists
- **Operational & Provincial coordination:** Coordinates with the Operations team and Provincial Coordinators to facilitate smoothly run field assessments and training tracking.

External Stakeholders

The Specialist acts as a key liaison and technical advisor to external stakeholders, co-designing interventions and building local capacities. Primary external coordination lines include:

- **Local Authorities & Civil Society:** Working directly with local authorities (such as the Department of Agriculture and Environment), forest management boards, the Women's Union, and NGOs or community groups to align livelihoods with conservation goals.
- **Market & Private Sector Actors:** Engaging with agricultural cooperatives, farmer groups, private sector lead buyers, input suppliers, and enterprises to foster inclusive market linkages and build climate-resilient value chains.
- **Field Implementers:** Managing and reviewing the outputs of external consultants and technical service providers to ensure high-quality activity delivery.

Specific Tasks and Responsibilities

Project Delivery (50%)

- Lead the design and implementation of Agri-Nature based Solutions, cooperative or farmer group development and market-related activities aligned with project outcomes.
- Guide and support agricultural cooperatives or farmer groups to adopt sustainable business models and inclusive governance.

- Support local cooperatives or farmer groups in adopting inclusive governance and sustainable business models while connecting them to climate-resilient value chains and market opportunities
- Act as budget holder for designated project outputs and activities, ensuring that all expenditures are planned and monitored in accordance with donor guidelines and Socodevi's financial policies.
- Support the integration of gender-inclusive approaches into value chain and market access strategies.
- Collaborate with the Forestry & Biodiversity Specialist to integrate sustainable land use practices and conservation priorities into agricultural value chain development.
- Coordinate with partners and stakeholders including the Department of Agriculture and Environment, local authorities to implement activities.
- Support monitoring and results-based reporting in coordination with the MEL team.
- Contribute to the development of training tools and facilitate training for field teams and stakeholders.

Partner and Stakeholder Engagement (30%)

- Coordinate with provincial authorities, forest management boards, local mass organizations, and NGOs.
- Coordinate with private sector, lead buyer to increase market access.
- Support partnerships with research institutions and experts to inform evidence-based programming.
- Organize and participate in technical workshops, trainings, and community outreach events.
- Represent the project in relevant agricultural, cooperative, and value chain networks at national and international levels.

Monitoring, Evaluation, Learning and Communication (10%)

- Contribute to the development and means of measurement of indicators related to sustainable agriculture, Agri-Nature based Solutions, cooperative development, MSMEs and inclusive value chains
- Work with the MEL specialist to ensure appropriate tracking of Agri-NbS and value chain outcomes and best practices
- Support field monitoring, data analysis, and documentation of lessons learned on sustainable agriculture, Agri-NbS, cooperative development, and inclusive value chains
- Collaborate closely with the Communications Officer to identify and leverage communications and media opportunities that promote Socodevi and DID's work and increase their visibility within the wider development community in Vietnam and internationally.

Gender Equality

- Collaborate with the Gender Equality officer to ensure the integration of Canada's Feminist International Assistance Policy principles across all project components
- Provide input on gender-sensitive indicators related to relevant outcomes, such as participation in access to sustainable livelihoods, and climate resilience.
- Help raise awareness and capacity on gender equality among local partners, and community groups

Other Responsibilities

- Undertake any other duties reasonably assigned by the Technical Team Leader to support effective implementation of the BLOOM project and broader organisational objectives

Professional Requirements

Minimum:

- **Education:** Master's degree (or equivalent advanced degree) in Agriculture, Business Administration, Rural Development, or a related field. *A Bachelor's degree combined with extensive equivalent experience will also be considered.*
- **Experience:** At least 5 years of professional experience in sustainable agriculture, value chain management, MSME development, or cooperative strengthening.
- **Market Development:** Proven track record in supporting the commercialization of agricultural products/services and designing market-oriented solutions for rural communities, cooperatives, or MSMEs.
- **Contextual Knowledge:** Strong understanding of ethnic minority livelihood dynamics and economic development opportunities within upland landscapes.
- **Language Skills:** Professional-level fluency in English with strong analytical, facilitation, and communication skills.
- **IT Skills:** Proficiency in standard office software (MS Word, Excel, and PowerPoint).

Desirable:

- **Donor Projects:** Experience working with international donor-funded initiatives (e.g., Global Affairs Canada, EU, UKAID, DFAT).

- **Enterprise Growth:** Experience in business incubation, MSME coaching, or enterprise development specifically within rural and agricultural sectors.
- **Market Systems:** Familiarity with private sector engagement strategies and Inclusive Market Systems Development frameworks.
- **Community Engagement:** Direct experience working alongside ethnic minority communities and local mass organizations (e.g., the Women's Union).
- **Gender Lens:** Familiarity with integrating gender-sensitive approaches directly into agricultural value chains

Working Conditions

- **Work Schedule:** Monday to Friday, with occasional evening and weekend work as needed.
- **Flexible Work Arrangements:** Socodevi supports flexible work options, including work from home, adjusted hours, and job sharing, where feasible.
- **Contract Type:** 12-month full-time employment contract, with strong potential for extension.
- **Workplace:** Based in Hanoi, with regular travel to Tuyen Quang and Dak Lak provinces.

Socodevi Core Values

At Socodevi, we are committed to advancing gender equality and building an inclusive, respectful, and safe work environment for both the communities we serve and the people on our team. We welcome applications from women, ethnic minorities, and individuals with disabilities, and actively support flexible work arrangements, including job sharing, remote work and adjusted hours. We recognize that diverse perspectives and lived experiences strengthen our work, and we are committed to ensuring accessibility and equity at every stage of employment.

All staff are required to sign the Code of Conduct and the Policy Against Fraud and Corruption on an annual basis. The Code of Ethics, Safeguard Policy, and Anti-Terrorism Policy are to be signed once upon hiring.

How to Apply

Please click on [this link to access the online application form](#). Your CV and cover letter should clearly describe your experience in financial inclusion, financial education, rural finance, access to finance, savings and credit mechanisms, and work with local partners or communities.

Applications by email will not be accepted. Only short-listed candidates will be notified.



Socodevi offers a competitive compensation package, with offers based on the relevant experience and qualifications of the selected candidate. The closing date for applications: **Tuesday July 28th, 2026 at 5:00 PM Hanoi time**