



Internship Kenya, MCCMCU

Title: Fast-tracking the implementation of "Management structures and Strategic plan"

Client: MCCMCU

Period: Starting asap

Duration: 3-4 months

Introduction

Meru County Coffee Millers Co-operative Union LTD (MCCMCU) is a cooperative union formed by the Coffee Co-operative Societies in Meru County with the aim of milling and marketing coffee centrally. Meru Central Coffee cooperative Union (MCCCU), Meru North Co-operative union (MNCU) and Imenya cooperative society Ltd are the main promoters of this union. The county government of Meru to some extent also supported MCCMCU with start up deposit for leasing the KPCU'S mill; as they started in 2014, the union managed to lease the milling facilities from the giant Kenya Planters Co-operative Union (K.P.C.U Ltd). Forty eight primary Coffee Co-operatives societies are affiliated to the union; one of societies is Imenya formed by estates within the county.

Agriterra did a company assessment of the cooperative union in October 2015 which resulted in the first action plan covering the whole of 2016 being drawn. As part of the action plan 2016, a number of activities were lined up, most significantly was one touching on the need to come up with a strategy for the next 4 years; a strategic plan has therefore been written. It is now upon the cooperative union to implement it.

Rationale

MCCMCU started its operations in early 2014 and since then they've been milling and marketing its member's coffee; they now have close to 3 years' milling and marketing experience in this new venture where they have reported quite some successes and also some disappointments in equal measure. A new strategic plan has been recently drawn that integrates all the activities of the union. However, for this plan to realise its intended results it has to be implemented and the right management structures to support it be put in place.

The Assignment

The assignment therefore involves supporting the cooperative union mainly in implementation of the already offered recommendations by Agriterra advisors (both agripool and staff) with close coordination and support of the National business advisor. This will entail working with the union to set up the necessary management structures on HR, finance, administration and operations that are needed for sustained growth of the union. Other main duties will be to help the client again put into action the company assessment report, marketing mission and financial management training recommendations.

Objectives

1. Support in set up of the right management structures; board meetings, implementation of resolutions et al
2. Assist staff members in operationalising the management reporting dashboard put in place
3. Assist in ensuring that the listed actions in the strategic plan are implemented



4. Support in the implementation of other mission reports recommendations such as company assessment, marketing mission and financial management training recommendations.

We are looking for

A well-motivated student who is ready for an interesting internship in the heart of Kenya. Good communication and writing skills, business-minded, adventurous, disciplined, precise, independent, good/fluent in English, result-driven and willing to work/live in Meru for several months and prepared to travel in remote areas of Kenya. Experience in setting up management reporting is a plus.

Application

Send your CV and a short letter of motivation to the Agriterra office at vacature@agriterra.org, before 3 March 2017 with reference to "assignment Meru".

Prior to the internship the candidate is expected to take part in an introduction workshop.

About Agriterra

Agriterra is an agri-agency founded and steered by the farmers' organisations and agricultural cooperatives in the Netherlands. Its mandate is to strengthen producers' organisations and cooperatives worldwide. For farmer-led business initiatives, Agriterra specifically supports business development services in the pre-investment phase such as feasibility studies, market surveys, business planning and capacity building components.

In addition Agriterra provides:

- Brokerage services to link farmer-led business development initiatives with investors, banks and other primary and supportive stakeholders in the value chain.
- Advisory services often employing Agripool advisors: experts stemming from co-operative and private agribusiness companies from the Netherlands and beyond with a specific thematic or sector expertise.