

Ethno-botany Research Assistant

At Tearfund, you join a group of believers who are focused on facing the challenges of poverty and injustice through God's love. We believe that God's people are a hub of change and that the local church is the best way to transform lives, restore relationships, and help people to lift themselves out of extreme poverty. When spiritual renewal is combined with training that empowers, true transformation occurs. When disasters strike, we respond quickly. We don't stop until poverty stops.

Is this Role for you?

- Are you passionate about using your skills to help people become free from extreme poverty, living transformed lives, and reaching their God-given potential?
- Do you love building relationships and collaborating?
- Do you believe that God is working powerfully in the world through the local church?
- Do you see your work as ministry, and are you passionate about using your skills to the best of your abilities as an act of worship?
- Does the prospect of learning from nature to help build God's kingdom excite you?
- Do you love desk-research and are you interested in learning new ways to reach people and churches through ethno-botany and caring for creation?
- Are you passionate about the ways in which God's natural creation provides solutions for human well-being?

If so, we encourage you to apply.

Position Profile

Position	Ethno-botany Research Assistant
Reports to:	Program Manager (East Africa)
Location	Markham, Ontario (or remote)
Position Type	Full-time contract
Compensation:	\$19/hour
Dates	May 6, 2024 – August 23, 2024

Role Description

As an Ethno-botany research assistant, you will play an essential role in a growing, dynamic, international non-profit and will be expected to give it your all, take initiative, and take Tearfund to new heights.

You will work directly with the Program Manager (East Africa) to strategically grow the understanding and capacity of Tearfund Canada and its implementing partners in ethno-botanical applications in East Africa. Alongside other staff in the organization, and alongside implementing partner staff, you will balance ethno-botanical desk-research and analytical skills with collaboration to produce excellent results.

As part of the internship, you will refine your skills and have a defined set of goals which will regularly be evaluated. You will have weekly meetings with your supervisor to learn where you can improve your expertise and be well-positioned to meet future career goals.

Overview of Activities

The Ethno-botany Research Assistant is responsible for reviewing and analyzing existing data on ethno-botany from Tearfund and from the implementing partners in Ethiopia and Kenya.

We are looking to hire a dependable ethno-botany research assistant to work on various Tearfund projects. The researcher's duties include and may not be limited to:

- Learn and deepen your understanding of the role of ethno-botany in nature-based solutions in international development from our partners in the Global South
- Learn and deepen your understanding of the role of ethno-botany in creation care, nature-based solutions and improved livelihoods, and the role of the church and government in ethnobotany at local, regional and national levels
- Literature review of current and historical ethno-botanical data and uses in East Africa
- Connect with implementing partners for ethno-botanical data, reports and analysis
- Research, identify, and help build strategy for ethno-botany applications, including identification, propagation, preservation, multiplication, uses, value-chains, and community-led benefits of ethno-botany.
- Write briefs and reports of findings
- Present findings to various stakeholders internally and externally
- Prepare and deliver presentations and communicate effectively internally and externally
- Work collaboratively with the Tearfund Canada Team, gathering and sharing ethno-botany stories of Creation Care and Livelihoods impact in the Global South
- Provide ethno-botany support to the Program Manager (East Africa)
- Any other duties as assigned by your supervisor

Skills and Responsibilities

The successful Ethno-botany Research Assistant candidate will have various prerequisite skills and responsibilities required for the duties of this job, including:

- A passion for God's natural creation and how it can be sustainably used to restore biodiversity and improve livelihoods
- A passion and ability to listen and learn and a systems thinker
- Ability to perform literature review, interpret research specifications and develop a workplan that will meet the goals
- An effective, cross-disciplinary desk-researcher, reviewer and analyst with the ability to anticipate research questions and issues for further research and resolution
- An excellent writer and presenter
- Excellent in verbal and written communication and interdisciplinary collaboration internally and externally
- Must be detail oriented and organized in research approaches
- Approach each situation with positive and constructive energy
- Proficiency with MS Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and Dropbox are required
- Proven track record of being highly motivated and driven to perform and follow through
- Follow a strict code of ethics and always protect confidential information

Qualifications

- Fully aligned with the vision, mission, and values of Tearfund Canada
- Completed or working towards a degree/diploma in ethno-botany, ecology, environmental science, biodiversity, economic botany or similar
- A team player, who is also self-driven, entrepreneurial and able to work independently without supervision
- Able to get things done. Willing to roll-up sleeves and do what is needed. Will seek out the answer if doesn't know how to do something

Application

To apply, kindly email us your cover letter and resume to hr@tearfund.ca. Your cover letter should include a description of the following:

1. Why you are the right fit for this position
2. Your related education and experience
3. How you would integrate faith with this role

Applications will be accepted until March 28, 2024.

IMPORTANT - PLEASE READ

This is a Canada Summer Jobs position and, therefore, the candidate must:

- be between 15 and 30 years of age at the start of the employment*
- be a Canadian citizen, permanent resident, or person to whom refugee protection has been conferred under the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act for the duration of the employment**; have a valid Social Insurance Number at the start of employment; and be legally entitled to work in Canada in accordance with relevant provincial or territorial legislation and regulations
- *The youth must be 15 years of age at the beginning of the employment period. The youth may be more than 30 years of age at the end of the employment period as long as the youth was 30 at the beginning of the employment period.

**International students are not eligible participants. International students include anyone who is temporarily in Canada for studies and who is not a Canadian citizen, permanent resident, or person who has been granted refugee status in Canada. Youth awaiting a refugee status ruling, as well as those who hold a temporary visitor visa, youth visa or work visa are ineligible. As the objective of the Canada Summer Jobs program is to support youth entering the Canadian labour market, the temporary nature of an international student's time in Canada does not allow for a long-term connection to the labour market.

Please note that "as in 2019, funded employers are no longer restricted to hiring students: all youth aged 15 to 30 years may be eligible participants."

Qualified candidates must be able to demonstrate a commitment to the core values and Christian mission of Tearfund Canada.

Tearfund Canada welcomes and encourages applications from people with disabilities. Accommodations are available on request for candidates taking part in all aspects of the selection process.

We thank all applicants for applying, however will only reply to those selected for interviews.

To learn more about Tearfund Canada, visit Tearfund.ca