**TITLE:** Sector Research Officer

**PARTNER(S):** UrbANet and the University of Development Studies (UDS) Ghana

**COUNTRY AND PLACE OF ASSIGNMENT:** Tamale, Ghana

**CONTRACT DURATION:** According to your program’s requirements

**DESCRIPTION:**

Uniterra is a leading Canadian international volunteer cooperation and development program, jointly implemented by the Centre for International Studies and Cooperation (CECI) and World University Service of Canada (WUSC). Uniterra contributes to improving the socio-economic conditions of poor and marginalized communities in 14 countries and with over 170 partners in Africa, Asia and the Americas through the exchange of expertise and knowledge of Canadian and international volunteers. Uniterra believes that economic growth, when inclusive, is the most powerful driver of poverty reduction. The purpose of the Uniterra program is to improve the lives of some of the world’s most vulnerable populations by stimulating growth and facilitating access to the benefits of growing and diversified markets. To make this happen, we are working with our local partners to enhance the income of poor and marginalized women and youth through better access to employment and income generation opportunities. Uniterra country program staff work with our local partners to design Uniterra assignments in the context of the country strategy, supporting the inclusion of women and youth in key economic subsectors.

For more information on the Uniterra program, our approach and countries of focus please visit: Uniterra.ca.

This mandate will bring together the skills and knowledge of Ghanaian and Canadian students and university faculty. It is a follow up to the baseline and market research conducted by Uniterra in the last two years. This research is one of the joint key activities designed by Uniterra, partners and stakeholders during a validation workshop on guinea fowl implementation framework. The research is one of the activities that will unlock opportunities for women and youth and thus provide leverage in the area of information and data to many organizations working in the guinea fowl value chain in Ghana.

In spite of the huge potential within the guinea fowl subsector in Ghana, the industry is characterized by rudimentary practices, therefore posing an entry barrier to many interested women and youth. This action research is intended for the entire benefit of the Uniterra project, partners and stakeholders working in the guinea fowl value chain in Ghana. It is however a collaboration between local non-governmental organizations (NGO’s), the University for Development Studies (UDS), Uniterra and Canadian and Ghanaian students. Teams will be formed of Ghanaian and Canadian students, working under the guidance of key staff persons from Uniterra, UDS and Canadian universities.
The research seeks to identify significant but untapped and hidden knowledge, practices and potentials that abound in the guinea fowl value chain in the northern parts of Ghana. The northern region is one of the research focus points where UrbANet, a grassroots non-governmental organization is going to act as host to the research team with technical and financial support from UDS, Uniterra, Canadian and Ghanaian students.

UrbANet was established in 2003 in Tamale in the Northern Region of Ghana. The aim of UrbANet is to facilitate urban agricultural development in the Northern, Upper East and Upper West Regions of Ghana. Since its establishment, UrbANet has brought together a diverse range of stakeholders involved in urban and peri-urban agriculture to improve food security though sharing knowledge of best agricultural practices, fostering linkages and establishing an effective network of urban agricultural producers and marketing based organizations. The organization has its head office in Tamale, the northern regional capital.

The choice of UrbANet as host to this research is to institutionalize Uniterra support to grassroots development and networking by empowering local organizations to provide the needed human resource capacity development to local communities in Ghana.

**RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- Review existing data on the guinea fowl value chain and identify potential information gaps in the area of best practices.
- Research into existing documented and indigenous best practices of guinea fowl production, processing and marketing.
- Research and document into existing support mechanisms available for guinea fowl breeders in the country.
- Present research findings of study in a form which will be usable by stakeholders.
- Ensure that women and youth are well represented in the research.
- Write reports required by UrbANet and the Uniterra program.

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

- Recent graduate and/or pursuing a bachelor’s or Masters degree in Social Science or International Development Studies
- Must have interest in social research;
- Must have knowledge in research and basic statistics;
- Knowledgeable in MS Word, Excel, SPSS, PowerPoint etc.;
- Must be willing to work in rural areas;
- Ability to work independently and collaboratively;
- Ability to work in an intercultural environment;
- Fluency in English.