Research and Data Manager

Summary of the Position

Over the last years, we have continually refined and strengthened our data collection practices ranging from marketing analyses to home consumption surveys. Our next level of growth will depend on a refined and high-quality strategy to measure our corn's economic and nutritional impact. The Research and Data Manager's role is to establish priorities and manage expectations with regards to the collection, review, and deployment of data. As our research and data manager, you'll play a crucial role in analyzing organization data and generating valuable insights. You understand the impact of your work in supporting informed decision-making and strategic planning within Semilla Nueva's purpose. The role is crucial to effectively collect data and interpret it correctly.

To ensure success as a Research and Data Manager you should have an analytical background, a passion for data processing, and a flair for presenting complex concepts. A top-notch R&D Manager will be adept at using figures, datasets, and reports.

The R&D Manager will lead our impact evaluation, reporting, co-lead the development and publishing of third-party impact evaluations and assist in program design. This position will report to the R&L Director and collaborate closely with the Leadership team. He/she will significantly shape the direction of Semilla Nueva's impact evaluation as we grow in both scale and quality. This position will be translating data into compelling external materials such as reports and applications as well as leading fund research processes for grants specifically related to impact evaluation.

The position will require collaboration across teams and will be based primarily in our main office in Guatemala City. The position will require frequent travel to corn-growing areas across the country and our Experimental Center to oversee and assess survey implementation and quality.

Summary of the Organization

Semilla Nueva develops high-yielding, climate-resilient maize seeds that have been conventionally bred (non-GMO) to have higher levels of the most important missing nutrients: zinc, iron, and quality protein. Our approach to large-scale adoption of these seeds relies on three strategies:

1. Breeding commercially competitive biofortified seeds, which can increase incomes and prevent crop losses for farmers who currently use older hybrid seeds or recycled Open-Pollinated Varieties (OPVs);
2. Piloting subsidies to seed companies to profitably sell new, higher-yielding, climate-resilient, biofortified seeds at prices the poorest of the poor can afford.
3. Working with governments to institutionalize these subsidies to focus on new, high-yielding, climate-resilient, biofortified maize seeds.

Our goal is for a minimal amount of subsidy to support hundreds of thousands of farming families to use biofortified seeds, consume biofortified maize, and sell biofortified maize into the market, while improving their incomes. The biofortified maize sold in the market will be purchased and eaten by millions of poor consumers,

improving the nutrition of these populations. Our seed was sold by three seed companies in 2022 in Guatemala, reaching over 20,000 farmers and feeding 800,000 people. Our seed is in testing by the governments of El Salvador and Honduras, and in development for Eastern Africa.

Qualifications

Required:

- Bachelor's degree in nutrition, agriculture, public health, economics, public policy or related field. particularly in business analytics, is an added advantage.
- Experience in program monitoring, evaluation, and data collection for nutritional/agricultural programs.
- Proven experience with programming for data analysis
- Data analysis and visualization
- Experience designing and implementing data capture tools.
- Demonstrated ability to work in a team-oriented and highly flexible work environment.
- Fluent English and Spanish

Desired:

- Master's degree in economics, public policy, nutrition, agriculture, public health or related field. particularly in business analytics, is an added advantage.
- Experience developing and implementing Project Monitoring Plans
- Familiarity with USAID program monitoring, data management and reporting requirements
- Demonstrated experience cleaning data, building datasets in Stata and/or R.
- Experience programming surveys in Survey CTO, ODK, or Kobo Collect.
- Experience launching large-scale household and agricultural surveys - including drawing samples.
- Experience with randomized control trials.

Expectations
- Ability to work both as part of a team as well as independently and proactively
- Ability to prioritize/coordinate a variety of activities
- Ability to work effectively in a multicultural team
- Comfortable working in a fast-paced, constantly evolving work environment
- Position located in Guatemala City

Specific Tasks

Monitoring and Evaluation
- Collecting and analyzing data to generate valuable insights.
- Identifying opportunities for process optimization and data-driven decision-making

- Providing actionable recommendations based on data analysis
- Work with Semilla Nueva's operations department to develop tools, train staff on their use, and provide quality control for phone and harvest studies that measure the economic, climate resilience, and food security impact of our program on farming families.
- Lead efforts to visualize the impact of Semilla Nueva's programs to make it easier for donors, partners, and government to understand the potential and impact of biofortified seeds on income and nutrition.
- Develop and/or update data collection, analysis and reporting systems to meet the needs of a range of donors, including USAID, foundations and individual contributors.
- Set up and organize a database of survey tools and data

Study implementation
- Work with external partners and Semilla Nueva's operations department to develop tools for third party studies on the nutritional and economic impacts of biofortified maize.

Team leadership and collaboration
- Develop and grow a professional team dedicated to the areas above
- Develop and maintain relationships with academic, government, and third party partners to implement studies and share results.

To apply please send your CV to Trabajo@semillanueva.org with the subject, Research and Data Manager and your last name.

Feel free to send any recent publications and/or 2-3 bullet points of why you think you would be a good fit for the role and we may be a good fit for you.