

The Landworkers' Alliance – A union for farmers, growers, foresters and land-based workers, striving to improve the livelihoods of our members and create a better food and land-use system for everyone.

www.landworkersalliance.org.uk / info@landworkersalliance.org.uk



The Landworkers' Alliance – Resilient Local Food Systems Project Coordinator

Hours: 3 days (24 hours) per week

Duration: Contract to 31st March 2023

Location: Working remotely with the capacity for some travel

Remuneration:* £17,472 gross annual salary PAYE (£29,120 pro rata). With 1.5% annual increase, subject to review. Statutory pension contribution and holiday allowance.

Start date: end of November or ASAP

Closing date for applications: Midnight 25th October

Interview period: Middle two weeks of November (exact date TBC) via Zoom

Website: landworkersalliance.org.uk

**The LWA has a pay parity policy and flat payment structure, with all workers paid at the same rate.*

The Landworkers' Alliance (LWA) is a union of farmers, growers, foresters and land-based workers operating across the UK. Our mission is to improve the livelihoods of our members and create a better food and land-use system for everyone. We have a vision of a future where producers can work with dignity to earn a decent living and everyone can access local, healthy and affordable food, fuel and fibre - a food and land-use system based on agroecology and food sovereignty that furthers social and environmental justice.

We are a dynamic and vibrant organisation that is entering an exciting phase of growth. Over the coming years we aim to significantly increase our membership base and expand member support and services, scale-out our projects and programmes, significantly advance our positions in policy making and develop our internal governance and organisational capability for this ambitious stage of growth.

Mode of Working:

The LWA is a members' cooperative represented by a Coordinating Group of directors elected by those members at the Annual General Meeting. The Coordinating Group steers the strategic, financial, governance and political work of the organisation and is also legally responsible for the management and operation of the LWA. Staff work in line with cooperative principles and in addition to specific job responsibilities may be required to participate in General Meetings and work teams as part of their hours, or additional paid time if needed.

The LWA does not have a centralised office and our staff work remotely but will be required to attend meetings that take place in various locations around the country. Reasonable travel costs will be covered in addition to the salary, however, this means candidates must have the skills and confidence to work remotely as part of a diverse team and a proven capacity to self-manage and work autonomously.

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We are committed to our [Equal Opportunities policy](#) and we welcome and encourage applications from anyone interested in this role who feels they have the relevant experience and skills.

Role overview and job description:

This is a 24 hours per week role funded until March 2023 as part of a project aiming to improve the capacity, reach and uptake of direct-to-customer and short supply chain sales models in local food.

This project develops practical strategies to address the problem of improving farm-business viability through approaches that increase the production and distribution of local food, and provide broader environmental and social benefits. With this role we aim to develop and popularise the business models that can provide healthy, affordable food and facilitate the transition to a farming system that supports social and environmental justice.

This role will work closely with the Member Support and Advice Coordinator, the Communications Coordinator, Membership Secretary and the Coordinating Group of the LWA.

Specific responsibilities of this role will be:

- **Creating resources, exchanges and support networks** that will help more farmers to set up or transition to direct sales and short supply chain approaches by organising farm visits and exchanges (8 per year) for farmers and growers to visit successful examples and learn how they function. They will also work with the Member Services and Support Coordinator to create case studies, guides and other resources including webinars and podcasts on direct sales and short / regional supply chains.
- **Organising and facilitating farmer-to-farmer co-creation of innovative models** by organising co-design 'innovation-lab' meetings (2 per year) to develop more innovative models for direct sales and local supply chains and to troubleshoot obstacles to scaling up these approaches.
- **Highlighting the policy changes necessary to scale-out these approaches** by feeding the outcomes of these meetings into our advocacy and campaigning work and producing a document examining the possibilities of scaling-up direct sales and local supply chains, quantifying the benefits they would bring and making policy proposals to support a movement towards more direct sales and local supply chains.
- **Coordinating the delivery and development** of the project and communicating with members, funders and other organisations working in the field.

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Person Specification:

We hope to appoint someone for this role who has the following skills and experiences:

- A passion for supporting farmers and growers working in local food and agroecology
- A taste for numbers, finance, business models and the nuts and bolts of making complicated farm businesses work.
- A creative and innovative approach to supporting farmers.
- A skilled facilitator and organiser, able to organise the logistics of meetings, ensure inclusivity and participation, and guide participants to useful outcomes.
- The ability to work in a diverse team, develop work plans, monitor progress, self manage, work autonomously where necessary and report on work done to the Coordinating Group.
- Ability to drive / travel for meetings and events
- Experience running a land-based business will be useful
- A passion and demonstrable commitment to movement led change to develop food sovereignty and agroecology

How to apply

Send (max) 3 pages written response or (max) 5 minutes audio / video

1. What experiences do you think qualify you for this role, and what skills will you bring to this work?
2. Which part of this role do you think you would find the most challenging?
3. What do you think are the main obstacles to more farmers and growers taking up direct sales and short supply chain approaches to distribution?
4. How would you support a conventional farmer (you can choose the sector) thinking about transitioning to a direct sales model?

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5. What do you think are the main policy and systemic challenges to scaling up direct sales and short / regional supply chains in the UK and how would you approach overcoming them?

Please also attach a short CV (max 2 pages), this can be written, or an audio or video file, and the contact details of two people we can approach for references.

Please send your application to admin@landworkersalliance.org.uk with 'Resilient Local Food Systems Project Coordinator' in the subject heading.

We will endeavour to contact all applicants individually but as we are a small team working part-time this may not practically be possible. If you have not heard from us by mid-November please assume that unfortunately you have not been selected for interview this time.

If you have any questions, or would like to discuss any aspect of this role in advance of applying please contact Adam Payne - adam@landworkersalliance.org.uk and he will try his best to respond. Please email Adam well in advance of the closing date.