

Vacancy Announcement

Deutsche Welthungerhilfe (formerly known as German Agro Action/GAA) was founded in 1962. Today it is one of the biggest private development organisations in Germany. Non-profit, politically independent and non-denominational, the organisation works under the leadership of an honorary board and the patronage of the German President.

Welthungerhilfe Myanmar is running projects in the fields of humanitarian assistance, food and nutrition security, agricultural value chains and community development in Ayeyarwady, Mandalay Region, Kachin, Chin and Shan States. The WHH program is funded by various institutional donors (BMZ, Federal Foreign Office of Germany, LIFT and others) as well as private donors.

We are currently looking for a **Food System Specialist** for the Country Programme. The position will be based in Yangon with frequent travels to the field offices and partner offices.

I. Job details

1. **Department:** Programmes
2. **Country / Location:** Myanmar / Country Office (with frequent field travel)
3. **FundsPro cost allocation:** To be assigned per project
4. **Job name:** Agronomist – Country-Level Support
5. **Title of job holder:** Food System Specialist
6. **Salary Group:** SG 7
7. **Immediate superior (in disciplinary matters):** Deputy Head of Programmes / Technical Coordinator
8. **Subordinate position(s):** None (technical mentoring to field teams)
9. **Representation:**
 - **Represents** WHH in national-level agriculture technical coordination when delegated
 - **Is represented by:** Assigned programme advisor if necessary
10. **Contract period:** Fixed-term, renewable

II. Objectives, Duties, Areas of Responsibility

1. Objectives of the position

The Agronomist provides technical leadership in agronomy, sustainable farming practices, and food system transformation across WHH Myanmar's projects. This includes support to seed value chains, regenerative agriculture, climate-smart methods, and integrated farming systems. The position plays a critical cross-cutting role and works closely with the Nutrition Specialist to strengthen agriculture-nutrition linkages.

The position ensures that WHH's food and agriculture interventions are locally relevant, climate adaptive, and aligned with global good practice and donor expectations.

2. Duties and Area of Responsibility

2.1 Duties with Own Area of Responsibility

- Provide technical guidance across WHH's agriculture-related projects (e.g. STREAM, AFDA, SBCC, Seed Projects) on crop production, intercropping, and soil and water management
- Lead quality assurance of activities in climate-smart agriculture (CSA), seed systems, and integrated farming approaches
- Develop training content and facilitate learning for WHH staff and partners in good agronomic practices, drought-resilient cropping, pest control, and agroecological methods
- Collaborate closely with the Nutrition Specialist to design and promote homestead gardening, nutrition-sensitive agriculture, and neglected underutilized species (NUS)
- Support partners and technical leads to develop cropping calendars, model plot designs, and conservation tillage methods appropriate to the Dry Zone
- Advise on irrigation scheduling, composting, green manure use, and other regenerative techniques
- Contribute technical sections to donor reports and proposals with strong contextualization of field practices and results

2.2 Duties without Own Area of Responsibility

- Participate in or represent WHH at agriculture, seed, or CSA coordination meetings, forums, and networks
- Support MEAL and project teams to collect and analyze technical indicators (e.g. MAHFP, SSRA, MDD-W)
- Coach junior agronomists and field facilitators from WHH and partner organizations
- Support the integration of environmental and climate risk assessments into agricultural programming
- Support documentation of success cases and knowledge products on food system transformation
- Assist partners with preparation for and implementation of seed certification, SPC formation, and market linkage
- Ensure gender and inclusion are addressed in design and delivery of agricultural training and value chain initiatives

2.3 Specific Activities and Duties of the Position

(To be detailed by the Deputy Head of Programmes. Example inclusions: co-developing technical briefs, facilitating annual agriculture learning forums, conducting quarterly field technical visits, and supporting joint learning missions with Wageningen University.)

III. Job Requirements

1. Knowledge / Qualifications

1.1 Professional / Formal Qualification

- University degree in agronomy, agroecology, agricultural sciences, or a closely related field
- Additional training in food systems, CSA, or rural livelihoods an advantage

1.2 Job-Related Professional Experience

- At least 5 years' experience in rural agricultural programming, preferably in Myanmar or similar context
- Familiarity with value chains, farmer-led innovation, and market systems
- Experience working with smallholder farmers and community-based organizations essential

1.3 Foreign Language Skills

- Proficiency in English (written and spoken)
- Myanmar language or local dialects preferred but not required

1.4 Miscellaneous

- Willingness to travel frequently to field locations under challenging conditions
- Commitment to inclusion, gender equality, and environmental sustainability
- Capacity to translate scientific recommendations into farmer-relevant messages

2. Social Skills

2.1 Social Skills

- Skilled communicator, able to explain complex topics in simple, actionable ways

2.2 Capacity for Teamwork

- Collaborates effectively with interdisciplinary teams across nutrition, MEAL, WASH, and livelihoods

2.3 Intercultural Competence

- Sensitive to diverse cultural, ethnic, and religious perspectives

3. Disciplinary Leadership of Staff

- None

4. Responsibility

- Works independently within the agreed strategic framework; responsible for technical coherence, practical innovation, and agricultural learning across projects

Qualified women and men are encouraged to apply!

Interested persons should submit an application letter and an updated CV including educational qualifications, contact number and contact details of at least two professional references to:

Yadanamayhtay.Myint@welthungerhilfe.de

Not later than 24 April 2025 (Thursday)

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for an interview.