

*Regional Coordinator for Southern England, as part of  
'The Seed Sovereignty for UK & Ireland Programme'  
at The Gaia Foundation*



<b>Duration:</b>	Fixed Term, Part-time until June 2020, 1 day per week
<b>Location:</b>	Home Based, Southern England Region
<b>Start:</b>	As soon as possible
<b>Salary:</b>	£23,000 pro rata
<b>Hours:</b>	Part time
<b>Annual Leave:</b>	25 days paid annual holiday plus recognised statutory public holidays. These are pro-rated for part-time employees.
<b>Reports to:</b>	Programme Manager
<b>Working with:</b>	Programme Manager, Head of Communications, other Regional Coordinators and partners

Please send your CV, a covering letter and the application form below to Angela Thomas - [angela@gaianet.org](mailto:angela@gaianet.org) by midday on 4th October 2017.

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The programme is managed by The Gaia Foundation which have over 30 years experience accompanying partners, indigenous communities and Earth defenders in Africa, South America, Asia and Europe. Together we work to revive bio-cultural diversity, regenerate healthy ecosystems and strengthen community self-governance for climate change resilience.

Through a holistic and long-term approach working with local and indigenous communities, civil society groups and social movements, we focus on four key areas:

- **Seed, food & Climate Change Resilience** - Building seed, food and climate change resilience, enabling small farmers and growers to enhance their knowledge and seed diversity.
- **Sacred Lands & Wilderness** - Protecting sacred lands through legislation and policy change, and the assertion of custodial rights, helping communities to gain legal recognition that is rooted in their traditions.
- **Earth Jurisprudence** - Promoting Gaian governance through the Rights of Nature - recognising nature as the primary source of law and ethics, and challenging the current capitalist system.
- **Beyond Extractivism** - Moving beyond extractivism, backing those at the front line of mining struggles to defend their ecological and cultural heritage and to build alternative pathways whilst affirming their right to say 'no'.

### **Seed Sovereignty of UK & Ireland Programme**

The programme will co-ordinate and facilitate the development of a biodiverse and resilient seed system in the UK and Ireland through increasing the availability and production of agro-ecological (organic) seed and strengthening collaboration across the seed sovereignty movement.

The programme will support strategic collaboration across the UK, Ireland and European seed movement plus the delivery of specific activities, training and resources aimed at up-skilling farmers and growers. In the second half of the programme there will be on farm variety trials in diverse conditions across the British Isles, and participatory plant breeding. A database of varieties and an online platform for growers will also be developed to support the programme's activities and participants.

There will be five regional seed hubs where training, networking and opportunities for collaboration will be made available and facilitated by regional coordinators.

The programme has identified three overarching objectives within which all of the activities have been organised:

1. To support and cultivate regional and national connections and collaboration to provide coherence across the food and seed sector.
2. To support farmers and growers with further skills, resources and information.
3. To foster a more supportive environment for a biodiverse and ecologically sustainable seed system to thrive.

## Job Description

This is a home-based, part-time post, with travel required throughout Southern England and sometimes further afield.

### Role

This role is for a Regional Coordinator to assist in the development/establishment and smooth running of a local seed hub in the Southern England region. This role will include supporting the members of the regional hub and engaging with other groups and individuals through events, workshops and talks. The Regional Coordinator will also help establish further hubs in the region if required and to promote the hub(s) and the issue of seeds and seed production to interested parties and farmers/growers in the region.

### Responsibilities

- Coordinate activities, resources and equipment, if required. These activities will include training, variety trials, seed production and information.
- Monitor & track progress for the regional hub as a whole as well as for funders
- Act as the main point of contact for enquiries and interested parties.
- Maintain any records as required
- Reports directly to the Programme Manager

### Person Specification

Must be able prepared to travel regularly, particularly within Southern England.

Skills & Expertise	Essential	Desirable
Good teamwork	X	
Excellent written and verbal communication skills	X	
Excellent time management	X	
Experience of presenting talks	X	

Skills & Expertise	Essential	Desirable
Good organisational skills and attention to detail	X	
Knowledge of agro-ecological production	X	
Good IT skills	X	
Experience in the area of seed production	X	
Experience of farming		X

Please send your CV, a covering letter and the application form below, to Angela Thomas [angela@gaianet.org](mailto:angela@gaianet.org)— by midday on Wednesday 4th October 2017.

### Confidential Application

#### Regional Coordinator for Southern England Region

#### The Gaia Foundation

Please complete this brief application form and attach a CV outlining your career to date, plus any academic and professional qualifications. Also include details of any voluntary post undertaken. Please send your application, by midday on 4th October 2017, to [angela@gaianet.org](mailto:angela@gaianet.org)

Full Name:

Address:

Mobile Phone:

Home Phone:

Email:

How did you hear of this post?

Are you eligible to work in the UK? :

### REFERENCES

Please give details of two professional referees - your current employer (they will not be contacted prior to an offer), and your previous employer or personal referee:-

1 - Name and professional relationship to you:

Tel:  
Email:  
OK to approach Yes / No

2 - Name and relationship to you:

Tel:  
Email:  
OK to approach Yes / No

### **Current Employment Terms Details**

Basic Annual Salary:	Annual Leave:
Pension: Employer contribution:	Employee contribution:
Any other benefits?:	
Notice required:	If applicable

**Please state – on no more than 2 pages:**

**1) Why you would like to be Regional Coordinator of Southern England**

**2) What three key areas of your experience and skills you can bring to this role  
(Please draw upon the job description to inform your answer)**

### **DECLARATION**

I declare that the information that I have provided on this form is true and accurate, and in particular that I have not omitted any fact which may have a bearing on my application. I understand that any subsequent contract of employment with the Gaia Foundation will be made on the basis of the information I have provided. Furthermore, I understand that a false declaration, which results in my appointment to the Gaia Foundation, will render me liable to dismissal without notice.

**Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

## The Recruitment Process

### Timetable

<b>Deadline for applications</b>	Midday on Friday 4th October 2017.
Interview Date (Time to be arranged)	12th October 2017 in Exeter

**We will notify successful candidates by midday 6th October 2017**

### To Apply

If you would like to apply for the role then please send your CV, covering letter and Application Form to [angela@gaianet.org](mailto:angela@gaianet.org) by midday on 4th October 2017.

### Information

If you require any further information or you would like to discuss anything in more detail, please contact Angela at the above contact details.