



THIRST Research & Communication Volunteer Intern

Job Description

Introduction

THIRST is The International Roundtable for Sustainable Tea (Registered Charity Number 1189499). Our vision is of a fair and sustainable tea industry where workers and farmers are empowered and their rights are protected, within a system that is shaped by 21st century values and systems rather than 19th century ones. Our mission is to provide a platform for civil society actors and tea workers and farmers, to come together to challenge the tea industry and governments to reform the system, and support them in doing this.

THIRST is currently preparing to conduct a three-year community-based, tea sector-wide Human Rights Impact Assessment (HRIA) in partnership with other expert civil society organisations in order to provide a strong evidence base for future advocacy and action by civil society, companies and governments to reduce the risk of human rights breaches and provide remedy where such breaches have occurred.

In the meantime, THIRST needs to maintain its publication of monthly news updates on issues affecting tea workers and farmers, its programme of TEA talks, and keeping its Knowledge Hub updated with key reports on these issues around the world.

THIRST is now seeking a volunteer intern to support both the HRIA and its regular work.

This will be a valuable opportunity for a graduate or equivalent – or someone seeking to move into the field of ethical trade/business and human rights to gain in-depth knowledge and experience in this area in relation to the tea industry.

The role is currently a voluntary position, but THIRST is in the process of fundraising for part-time paid assistance. There is therefore potential for the intern to apply for the position if and when it becomes available.¹

Tasks

- **HRIA:** Assisting in research, communication and coordination with research partners and donors. Research may include independent study – eg on consumer attitudes to tea prices and human rights and environmental issues in the tea sector.
- **Monthly Updates:** Assisting with the collation of news items on human rights of tea workers and environmental issues in tea growing countries around the world: scanning and editing Google news alerts for relevant articles and formatting them for Mailchimp

¹ NB this does not constitute an offer of future paid work.

- **TEA Talks:** Support with running TEA Talks: managing Zoom, monitoring questions in chat etc during event. Providing technical support as needed to ensure meeting runs smoothly. Editing and uploading recording in YouTube.
- **Knowledge Hub:** Supporting the updating of THIRST's Knowledge Hub with relevant reports; internet searches for latest research, creating summaries of reports and preparing them for listing in Knowledge Hub.

Qualities, Skills and Experience required

- Strong research and report-writing skills and experience
- Good email and telephone communication skills
- Fluency in English (fluency in additional languages of tea producing countries would be an additional advantage)
- Technical skills:
 - On-line conferencing, especially Zoom
 - Website updating
- Ability to work independently, while knowing when to ask for help
- Commitment to human rights, ethical trade and the environment
- Administrative experience, good time-management skills and attention to detail
- A positive and constructive attitude!

Hours

To be negotiated. We anticipate the role will require one or two days a week but these can be arranged to suit the intern.

Expenses

Expenses such as for travel, food etc incurred in connection with the internship will be covered by THIRST.

Location

The role can be carried out remotely so we are not specifying a location – as long as there is good enough internet connectivity to maintain communication with the CEO and carry out the duties required.

To Apply

Please send your CV and a covering letter explaining why you are interested in the role and explaining how you meet the criteria to Sabita Banerji at contact@THIRST.international

Application deadline

Friday 21st May 2021

Contact

For more information or to talk through the internship, please contact Sabita Banerji, CEO at contact@THIRST.international or call +44 (0) 7773949787