EMPLOYMENT ANNOUNCEMENT

TITLE:	**REMOTE SENSING AND GIS SPECIALIST**
POSITION:	**FULL-TIME**
LOCATION:	**SOUTHERN AFRICA**
REPORTING TO:	**DIRECTOR OF CARBON ACCOUNTING**

BioCarbon Partners (BCP) is a dynamic African headquartered and focused REDD development social enterprise. BCP's mission is to reduce poverty and enhance conservation through global carbon markets. BCP seeks individuals with a passion for Africa, and for making a meaningful positive contribution to rural communities and forest ecosystems. BCP is a values based organization whose goal is to make the world a slightly better place. We seek a like-minded individual to join our small but high-impact team.

BCP is developing a pipeline of exciting REDD projects and seeks a Remote Sensing and GIS Specialist to assist in all aspects of REDD feasibility studies and validation/verification processes. This position is a fantastic opportunity for a driven individual wishing to be at the cutting edge of forest carbon science and spatial innovation.

Job Description:

The RS/GIS Specialist will report directly to the Director of Carbon Accounting. The primary responsibility of the position is the remote sensing and GIS components of REDD feasibility studies and Project Documents as prescribed by the Verified Carbon Standard and Climate, Community and Biodiversity Alliance (CCBA). The ideal candidate will have a good working knowledge of remote sensing, particularly correct image acquisition, image preparation and vegetation and land use classification using supervised and un-supervised methods within the vegetation ecology or forestry sector.

GIS skills other than basic cartographic techniques will be the development of carbon and land use maps using ArcGIS or Free Open Source Software such as QGIS. Furthermore the candidate will provide ground teams with GIS support including assistance with the design of vegetation sampling strategies, setting up GPS devices and plot placement, data management and processing.

The position will require some travel to remote areas, mainly in Africa. The candidate will have to be a team player that can interact with people from diverse backgrounds, but it is essential to be able to operate unsupervised.

Key Requirements:

Remote Sensing: Image acquisition, processing, archiving and classification, particularly LandSat and MODIS imagery, but some experience with high resolution imagery such as SPOT 5, GeoEye and QuickBird will be an added advantage. Land use classification, cumulative deforestation modeling, vegetation mapping and stratification and biomass mapping relating to REDD projects and land use sector climate change mitigation projects in general.

GIS: Cartography, geodatabase management, ortho-rectification, development of carbon and land use maps. Land use change modelling will be a definite added advantage. Provide GIS support to biomass inventory and other field teams. This will include practical GPS use protocol development and in field setup. Developing field data quality control systems. Experience with setting up data capture systems using smart phones and tablet PCs will be beneficial.

Vegetation sampling and mapping: Field visits to remote areas to assist field teams with GIS/RS components of forest surveys and land cover mapping, e.g. designing ground-truthing surveys. Experience in basic GIS/Field survey training will be preferred.

Data management: Expert knowledge of data quality control and capture a necessity. Managing of large data sets including RS, GIS and Forest Inventory data.

Report Writing: Advanced scientific report writing abilities required. Assist the Director of Carbon Accounting in the writing of feasibility reports, VCS and CCBA Project Documents and internal reports. The candidate will be asked to provide writing samples.

Computer skills: Expert user of remote sensing software preferably Spatial Analyst (ArcGIS), ENVI, IDRISI or ERDAS, but experience with FOSS such as ILWIS and GRASS will be an added advantage. Expert ArcGIS user, experience with FOSS such as QGIS will be an advantage. A good working knowledge of Excel and Access is required as well as other MS Office products particularly Word, Power Point and Outlook.

Knowledge of GHG mitigation Standards: Knowledge of land use sector climate change mitigation project standards such as the various VCS REDD methodologies will be an advantage.

Qualifications

African citizens, or long-term residents with a multi-generational family link to Africa preferred.

Education: The candidate will ideally have a post graduate degree (honours level) in the natural sciences, preferably in geography or biology with training in RS and GIS.

Experience: At least three years working experience in the natural resource management field. Preference will be given to candidates with experience in conservation planning, forestry, and vegetation ecology. Field experience in Africa is a necessity.

General: The RS/GIS Specialist will have exceptional organisational and communication skills, particularly the ability to communicate with remotely based field teams and host country partners. In essence a team player with good interpersonal and networking skills. The ideal candidate will have the ability to manage his/her own projects including contributing to planning, budgeting and business strategy and have strong analytical and problem solving skills. Candidates must be able to work according to deadlines and under often changing conditions as the field is highly dynamic.

Remuneration:

A competitive international package will be offered based on experience

Closing Date: Review of Applications will begin February 1st, 2012 until the position is filled.

Please submit a covering letter and CV with references to: jobs@biocarbonpartners.com