



**BVB Engineering College**  
**Vidyanagar, Hubli, 580031, Karnataka, India**  
[www.deshpandefoundation.org](http://www.deshpandefoundation.org)

**Job Title:** Program Officer - Agriculture  
**Reports To:** Director, Deshpande Foundation

**Location:** Hubli, Karnataka  
**Start Date:** Immediate

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**General Summary/ Organizational Overview:**

Under the supervision of the Director, serve as a Program Officer to NGO partners of the Deshpande Foundation. The Deshpande Foundation is the family foundation of Gururaj ("Desh") and Jaishree Deshpande. Founded in 1996, it is a leading philanthropic foundation in the US and India in the areas of innovation and entrepreneurship. In India, the Deshpande Foundation works largely in the "Sandbox," which consists of the five districts of Dharwad, Gadag, Haveri, Uttara Kannada and Belgaum in Northwestern Karnataka.

The Deshpande Foundation currently funds over 70 NGOs working in this region in the areas of agriculture, livelihood, education and health. The Foundation provides financial, technical and organizational support to its partner NGOs.

**Duties and Responsibilities:**

- Serve as contact for agriculture NGOs receiving grants from Deshpande Foundation and working with the Deshpande Center for Social Entrepreneurship
- Outreach to other NGOs and institutions in agriculture that are not funded by Foundation that could become partners for new projects or grant recipients with the Deshpande Center for Social Entrepreneurship
- Understand the agriculture and agriculture industries in Northwest Karnataka and how to connect farmers to the agricultural markets better
- Identify agricultural innovations and work with partners to determine feasibility of innovation implementation
- Evaluate how well NGO partners are completing the deliverables of Deshpande Foundation grant-funded projects
- Understand and report the status of the region in terms of important agriculture, productivity and yield indicators
- Organize education programs for NGOs and other Foundation partners to improve their skill base
- Create long-term growth plans with the NGO for both operational improvement as well as to progress sector-specific indicators

**Qualifications:**

- Have a minimum of 10 years experience in the agriculture development sector in India, with at least three years work within a non-governmental organization and two years working for a funding organization
- Experience in organization assessment and ongoing monitoring and evaluation
- Strong leadership, organizational, communication, team-building, and networking skills
- Comfortable working in rural villages and poor urban areas
- Demonstrated strong writing and editing skills
- Strong skills with Microsoft Office Suite
- Fluency in English required as well as fluency in either Hindi or Kannada
- Post-graduate degree/Master's degree from a reputed university required

**To apply:** Please email your CV and cover letter with salary requirements to [infocse@dfmail.org](mailto:infocse@dfmail.org). Women are highly encouraged to apply.