



## Spring 2019 – Food and Capital Markets Program Research Contractor

Ceres is seeking a contractor to help research the development of two investor guides for release in Q2 and Q3 2019 that drive more sustainable soft commodity supply chains and no deforestation corporate commitments. The position will run from January – May 2019. This document background about the two projects for which we are seeking research support (1) disclosure of progress towards no-deforestation commitments and (2) supplier incentives.

Applications and questions should be directed to Christie Merino at [merino@ceres.org](mailto:merino@ceres.org).

Deadline for all submissions: January 4, 2019

---

### About Ceres

Ceres is a sustainability nonprofit organization leading the most influential investors and companies to build leadership and drive solutions throughout the economy. Through our powerful networks and advocacy, we tackle the world's biggest sustainability challenges, including climate change, water scarcity and pollution, and human rights abuses.

#### *Ceres' Food and Capital Markets Program*

With our investor and company members, Ceres is driving large-scale changes in the way food is produced and sourced. We are working with the world's largest institutional investors to help them better understand how these pressures present risks and opportunities for the food sector. [See our investor guide on agricultural supply chain risks: Engage the Chain.](#)

We work with members of the [Ceres Investor Network](#) to increase the transparency of these risks from the food sector and improve corporate strategies on key sustainability challenges. We also work directly with food companies in the [Ceres Company Network](#) to set new goals that will reduce negative impacts and improve company performance on sustainability challenges from water scarcity and pollution to deforestation and forced labor.

For more information about Ceres, please visit our website [www.ceres.org](http://www.ceres.org)

### Food and Capital Markets Program Spring Contractor – Background Information

A contractor will meaningfully contribute to the scoping and production of two white papers intended for investor consumption on deforestation-risks in agricultural supply chains. A weekly project timeline will be provided upon hiring.

1. Conduct a literature review and assess current corporate best practices in disclosure of no-deforestation progress towards commitments. This will be presented to the Ceres Food & Capital Markets team through a power point and summary paper with detailed works cited.

2. Based on this research and feedback from Ceres staff, develop an annotated outline of disclosure white paper that Ceres staff will use to write a public facing report for an investor audience.
3. Conduct a literature review of current research on supplier incentives for no-deforestation commodity production to be presented to the Ceres Food & Capital Markets team through a power point and summary paper with detailed works cited. This will also feed into a second annotated outline.
4. Develop a qualitative survey of questions for experts in supplier incentives and sustainable forest supply chains that Ceres can use to interview experts and understand the landscape of organizations/current work.

### **Skills Required**

We are seeking candidates with solid research skills (such as experience reviewing corporate CSR disclosure and supplier documentation) and an ability to work independently, excellent verbal and written communication skills and familiarity with key environmental and social sustainability issues that influence, and are influenced by, the private sector. Knowledge of current dynamics at the nexus of international deforestation and commodity agriculture a plus. Graduate degree preferred, but all will be considered.

### **Compensation**

Ceres will compensate the contractor at a rate of \$25/hour.

### **Application Guidelines**

We encourage all applicants to review our website to familiarize themselves with Ceres before applying: [www.ceres.org](http://www.ceres.org).

1. Applicants should discuss how they would approach the various activities outlined in this application description in their cover letter and identify how their previous research/work experience or coursework qualifies them for this role. The cover letter should also include information that you deem important to the representation of your work/qualifications.
2. Applications should be accompanied by 2-3 references and at least 2 examples of previous work that can speak to similar projects in scale and scope.
3. Send all materials to Christie Merino at [merino@ceres.org](mailto:merino@ceres.org) with the subject line 'Spring Contractor 2019 – Food & Capital Markets.'