



REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA  
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE



VACANCY

**SMALLHOLDER AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIVITY ENHANCEMENT AND COMMERCIALIZATION (SAPEC) PROJECT**

**1. BACKGROUND**

The Ministry of Agriculture is implementing the Smallholder Agricultural Productivity Enhancement and Commercialization (SAPEC) Project with funding from the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFSP), the African Development Fund (ADF), and the Government of Liberia. The goal of the SAPEC project is to reduce rural poverty and household food insecurity. Its objective is to increase, on a sustainable basis, the income of smallholder farmers and rural entrepreneurs, particularly women, youths and the physically-challenged. The project, to be implemented in 12 of the 15 counties (Maryland, River Gee, Grand Gedeh, Grand Kru, Sinoe, River Cess, Grand Bassa, Montserrado, Margibi, Bomi, Cape Mount and Gbarpolu) over a period of five years, is designed to transform Liberian agriculture by moving 25,000 food insecure and low income farming households to commercially oriented agriculture with the aim of fostering economic growth. This will be accomplished through four components: (a) Sustainable Crop Production Intensification; (b) Value Addition and Marketing; (c) Capacity Building & Institutional Strengthening; and (d) Project Management.

Consistent with its role as executing agency of the SAPEC Project, the Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) wishes to recruit a highly motivated individual from Liberia or the sub-Region for the following position within the project:

**AGRO PROCESSING SPECIALIST**

**Main Responsibilities**

The Agro Processing Specialist will be responsible to assess the constraints on agro-processing business and develop a roadmap and strategy for modernizing the agro-processing industry. The specific responsibilities of the Agro Processing Specialist will include but will not be limited to the following:

- Identifying the main policy, regulatory, legal, institutional, infrastructure, and technical constraints to increasing value added in agriculture, including barriers to entry of the private sector;
- Assessing the technical adequacy of the agro-processing industry and, together with the agricultural technology specialist, recommend interventions to improve and modernize the industry, keeping in view labor and employment implications;
- Determining the need to strengthen and provide management support to the private agro-processing industry;
- Determining the need for quality control equipment in the agro-processing industry, and training in its use; and
- Determining the type and extent of support that could be provided to ongoing initiatives aimed at developing the agro-processing industry.

**Key Qualifications**

- At least a Bachelor's degree in Agricultural Engineering or Mechanical Engineering or closely related areas. Master's degree in one of these areas is added advantage.
- At least 2 years' experience in farm planning and economic analysis with extensive experience in small to medium scale agro-enterprise management. She/he should have extensive practical experience in the domestic agro-processing industry.
- At least 2 years experience in design and development of intermediate technology processing enterprises, at farm, family and industry level.
- At least 2 years experience with functioning of food crop value chains with specific reference to Rice, Cassava and Vegetables.
- At least 2 years of experience in analyzing, preparing and reviewing Industrial manufacturing Business Plans for contract negotiations.
- 2 years experience with externally funded development programs would be desirable, preferably with experience in market oriented projects.

**DURATION OF ASSIGNMENTS, DUTY STATION AND APPLICATION**

The position is full-time, with a maximum duration of three years, subject to a six month probationary period and annual performance reviews. The contracting of a successful candidate will be performance – based. The duty station shall be MOA Annex located at University of Liberia campus in Fendell, or County Agricultural Offices depending on concentration of project activities, with frequent travel to the project sites.

Interested persons are requested to send applications and other relevant credentials to [wkawalawu@moa.gov.lr](mailto:wkawalawu@moa.gov.lr) with copy to [aboimah-porte@moa.gov.lr](mailto:aboimah-porte@moa.gov.lr) and addressed to:

William K.C. Kawalawu, Sr.  
Project Coordinator - SAPEC  
Ministry of Agriculture Annex  
University of Liberia Fendell Campus

Please include title of position in subject line. The deadline for submitting applications is **16:00 GMT, Monday, 11<sup>th</sup> January 2016.**  
**Qualified female candidates are especially encouraged to apply.**