

Society for the Conservation of Nature of Liberia (SCNL)



Henry's Compound, Opp. German Embassy, Tubman Boulevard, Congo Town,
P. O. Box 2628 Monrovia, Liberia, West Africa

☎: (+231) 886-573-612/0555831170/0777822456

E-mail: info@scnlliberia.org,

Website: www.scnlliberia.org

BirdLife Partner

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Position and Assignments:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| 1. Position(s) | Social Science Monitoring Assistant
(Livelihood and Awareness Activities) (4 POST) |
| 2. Immediate Supervisor(s): | Project Coordinator & Head of field office |
| 3. Immediate Supervisees: | Project Beneficiaries |
| 4. Duty Station: | Cape mount (Sokpo) & Gbarpolu (Kongba) |
| 5. Contract Period: | (100% Full Time Equivalent for 34 months)
Based in the field with frequent sleeping away from the field office in local towns.) |

Background

The Society for the Conservation of Nature of Liberia (SCNL) is a non-governmental, non-political, and non-profit conservation organization in Liberia, working with government, international organizations, civil society, Indigenous peoples, local communities, and the private sector for over 30 years. As a member of the Birdlife International Partnership Network, SCNL achieves high impact and long-term conservation benefits for wildlife and people. SCNL's inclusive approach fosters consensus among stakeholders and enhances the capacity of government agencies, CSOs, and program target groups to impact conservation efforts. Established in 1986, SCNL aimed to promote sustainable use of natural resources and environmental protection.

Current trends on forest assessment reveal high rates of deforestation/degradation of West African forests. This results in a loss of globally important biodiversity while local communities lose valuable forest resources and ecosystem services and suffer from decreased resilience to the effects of climate change. Deforestation is driven by numerous processes including agriculture (industrial and subsistence), logging and hunting, mining activities, illegal wildlife trade, illegal traffic in wood, and armed conflict.

SCNL aims to ensure connectivity is maintained by supporting these clans to manage forests sustainably, which includes setting aside areas of forest as Community Conservation Zones to ensure connectivity. Ideally, this process includes, first, supporting clans to work with the Liberian Land Authority through the Customary Land Formalisation (CLF) Process (Liberian Lands Rights Act of 2018) to gain their customary rights to an area of land. As part of this process the boundary of the clan land is agreed, and a participatory land use plan produced. This covers the entire area of clan land and shows how they intend to use their land and the resources available within that land. Once clans receive the deeds to their clan lands, they can begin to collaborate with the Forestry Development Authority (FDA) to develop a Community Forest (CF) (a subset of the clan lands). This in turn involves establishing the boundary of the Community Forest, conducting a comprehensive inventory of flora and fauna (done by the FDA and the communities) to inform management plan production, and hiring a consultant to develop a management plan and having this approved by the FDA.

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Considerable work has been done in the past to conserve and manage both the Protected Areas and the unprotected forest in the Landscape, and the C4C implementation will ensure livelihood sustainability.

The Community for Conservation project targets the protection of 6 unprotected areas of forest in the Gola Landscape, occupied by the following 6 clans: Normon, Tonglay, Maima, Zue, Upper and Lower Sokpo with the following goals.

Long Term Impact: Forest Communities of the Gola Landscape in Liberia adopt sustainable land use and forest dependent practices to secure their livelihood and conserve their Community Forests between and around the Gola Forest National Park.

Outcome: Gola Landscape Forest communities in Liberia have the governance structures and capacity to effectively implement nature-based solutions including forest dependent enterprises that improve livelihood, ensure food security and conserve biodiversity.

Output 1: A Community Conservation Agreement (CCA) established with the Normon clan to support sustainable livelihood and nature-based solutions (forest dependent and climate resilient) to conserve biodiversity in the Gola landscape.

Output 2. A Sustainable Forest Management Plan for Tonglay Community Forest including the commercial zone is developed based on a full cost and benefit analysis of different management scenarios (including logging as well as conservation scenarios)

Output 3. Sustainable agriculture and forest dependent livelihoods enhanced and promoted in Kongba, Porkpa and Lukasu districts.

Output 4 Organizational and technical capacity and awareness in target communities in Kongba raised to understand the link between forest conservation and how they can benefit from ecosystem services (like REDD+ /carbon).

With the above background, The Community mobilization Officer will ensure the following:

Role:

Under the directives of the Community for Conservation(C4C) Project Coordinator, the **Social Science Monitoring Assistants (Livelihood and Awareness Activities)** will carry out in collaboration with other field staff, including research technicians the below tasks:

Key Responsibilities

- To support RSPB Conservation Scientist in the design participatory framework and carry out impact analysis of alternative community forest management scenarios in Normon CCA.
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- They will also design and implement the socio-economic assessment of how freshwater fish contribute to food nutrition and security

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- The fish assessment will end in year 2 but they will be required to carry out impact analysis of CCA in years 2 and 3.
- They will be required to conduct the fish study

Other Responsibilities:

- Represent SCNL at communities & designated functionaries;
- Produce and submit a monthly report or as may be required; and
- Perform any other functions as may be directed in accordance with SCNL policy.

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SKILLS AND BEHAVIOURS

Accountability:

- Holds self-accountable for making decisions, managing resources efficiently, achieving and role modeling SCNL's mandates
- Holds the team and partners accountable to deliver on their responsibilities - giving them the freedom to deliver in the best way they see fit, providing the necessary development to improve performance, and applying appropriate consequences when results are not achieved

Ambition:

- Widely shares their vision for SCNL, engages and motivates others
- Future orientated; thinks strategically

Collaboration:

- Builds and maintains effective relationships, with their team, and colleagues,
- Values diversity, sees it as a source of competitive strength
- Approachable, good listener, easy to talk to

Creativity:

- Develops and encourages new and innovative solutions
- Willing to take disciplined risks

Integrity:

- Honest, encourages openness and transparency

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QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

- Post-Secondary Education Completion in Social Sciences, Forestry, Social Work, or any other relevant field.
- At least 2 years of work experience on community forestry engagement programs, outreach, livelihood, and project management
- Extensive field experience in working with communities and conducting a needs assessment.
- Proven organizational and problem-solving skills.
- Good analytical, negotiating, and advocacy skills;
- Experience and understanding of different alternatives for project cycle management Proven high level of problem-solving skills
- Sensitive to cultural issues of diverse settings;
- Understanding of participatory and social-economic research techniques
- Knowledge in Participatory Land Use Planning
- Community mobilization skills
- Fluency in English and any of the local languages in the project area.
- Must be able to ride a motorbike

Submission of Applications

Please submit the application address to:

The Finance & Administrative Manager
Society for the Conservation of Nature of Liberia (SCNL)
Henry's Compound, Opposite German Embassy
Tubman Boulevard, Congo Town or email:

vacancy@scnlliberia.org

Deadline for Applications: January 29, 2025

Females and persons with disability who are qualified are encouraged to apply