

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

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JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Position and Assignments:

1. Position: Social Science Research Assistant (Livelihood and Awareness Activities)
2. Immediate Supervisor: Project Coordinator & Field Supervisor
3. Immediate Supervisees: Project Beneficiaries
4. Duty Station: Cape Mount (Sokpo) & Gbarpolu (Kongba)
5. Contract Period: **(100% Full Time Equivalent 34 months)**

75% of time, in field 25% in Monrovia

Based in the field with frequently sleeping away from field office in local towns.

Background

The Society for the Conversation 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.

Considerable work has been done in the past to conserve and manage both the Protected Areas and

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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:

Key Responsibilities

- o Work over a large geographic area - i.e. Sokpo 1, Sokpo 2, Maima, Zue and Tonglay.
- o Support a wide range of activities - i.e. monitoring of cassava, rice and honey production, awareness of the value of sustainable forest management, and awareness of the value of the REDD+ process.
- o Assist the to work to increase safety and security (especially for female assistants) and enhance data quality.
- o Need to assess impact of activities to raise awareness of Sustainable Forest Management in Tonglay community.
- o To setup a monitoring system for impact analysis of livelihoods and awareness and support implementation of monitoring system) and REDD

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Other Duties:

- Assisting social scientists with laboratory and survey-related research.
- Conducting literature reviews and recruiting participants.
- Collecting and analysing data using statistical software.
- Fact-checking reports and preparing research for publication.
- Designing research studies and writing reports.
- Responsible to provide support for implementation of livelihood project activities in accordance with approved time schedules
- Support the Design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the SCNL livelihood activities at community levels
- Keep a systematic and up to date records of SCNL livelihoods activities in both field and Monrovia offices and on google drive
- Submit field missions' reports followed by monthly summary reports
- Coordinate his/her work with other projects coordinators and officers for the smooth execution of all livelihood's interventions.
- Perform any other duties and responsibilities assigned by the supervisor or designate.

Required Minimum Qualifications, Experience

- University degree in Agriculture and or related field;
- Minimum of 3-years' working experience with humanitarian program in the fields of livelihoods or agriculture at management level.
- Excellent command of the most common methodologies to identify, assess and monitor livelihood activities, with proven record of achievements.
- Experience with Household Economy Approach (HEA), community livelihood assessment tools and agriculture tools.
- Excellent interpersonal, written and verbal communication skills
- Strong agriculture analysis skills (qualitative and quantitative)
- Strong cultural awareness and sensitivity
- Flexible and creative
- Strong organizational skills
- Goal oriented with ability to work under pressure, independently and with limited supervision.
- Ability and willingness to work and live in challenging conditions
- Good working computer Skills (MS Suite).
- Able to ride motorbike
- Fluency in English and any of the local languages in the project area

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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

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

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