ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY OF LIBERIA (EPA)
P.O. BOX 4024
SEKOU TOURE AVENUE, MAMBA POINT
1000 MONROVIA 10, LIBERIA

Job title		Innovative Finance Expert	
Procuring Entity		Environment Protection Agency	
Programme/Project		Strengthening Agricultural Resilience through Transformational Livelihood Adaptation in Liberia (SARTLA)	
Activity result		Provide strategic technical oversight to create and oversee the use of financial methods that support the environmental goals of the project. This involves finding ways to gather resources and secure funding either from private sector or other sources in line with project’s objectives.	
Assignment		The Innovative Finance Expert is to develop an innovative financial strategy to identify potential opportunities for implementing such a strategy. Also, create a financial plan that matches the project goals and fits within the national framework for resource mobilization.	
Location	Monrovia with travel to other project counties in Liberia	**Duration**	1 year; renewable each year up to 5 years based on performance

BACKGROUND

Liberia possesses natural resources and fertile land along with valuable fishing areas; however, it grapples with development hurdles linked to environmental damage and inadequate infrastructure and institutions despite its abundance of resources. The nation encounters difficulties in enhancing smallholder agriculture and fisheries performance that impact people’s livelihood opportunities well as food security and hinder overall economic progress.

The Country also faces challenges due to the extensive damage to its land and coastal regions caused mainly by unchecked human actions like building construction and roads as well as mining activities and urban growth that led to pollution issues. These harmful activities have greatly harmed the ecosystems for supporting agriculture and fishing industries. The impacts of climate change exacerbate these dangers by hastening land and coastal deterioration while diminishing the resources essential for the local communities’ sustenance.

The ecosystems in the country are facing challenges with a focus specifically being placed upon wetlands and coastal areas such as mangroves which play a key role as protective barriers during storms and habitats for marine life growth; these areas are at high risk due to rising sea levels and temperatures along with more powerful storm surges present in the oceans today causing concerns for both biodiversity loss and increased threats of flooding and erosion to nearby coastal communities.

Liberia's economy and communities are greatly affected by the effects of climate change with a focus particularly toward increased flooding and coastal erosion caused by rising sea levels and severe weather conditions like storm surges in regions such as Monrovia and other cities in Liberia including Robertsport and Harper where informal settlements face significant risks due to lack of proper infrastructure leading to regular flooding incidents causing damage to buildings and infrastructure as well as health issues due to sanitation problems.

Rising ocean temperatures pose a threat to marine environments beyond physical dangers by putting fish stocks at risk. Crucial for the nation's fisheries and food security backbone. The issue of overfishing worsens with the deterioration of mangroves and coastal habitats leading to a decline in fish populations. As per the IPCCs Assessment Report, findings suggest that West Africa is anticipated to be heavily impacted by climate change with projections pointing towards elevated temperatures and more frequent occurrences of heatwaves and extreme precipitation events which could result in increased flooding, especially, in Liberia and neighboring regions.

Liberia's economy depends significantly on resources and is at high risk of being impacted by climate related events due to its low ability to adapt to such changes as indicated by its position as the 177th out of 185 countries as per the ND-GAIN index ranking. The vulnerability is exacerbated by poverty levels and inadequate infrastructure and education which impede communities from preparing for climate related risks.

Small scale farmers and fishers play a role in rural communities and are particularly at risk due to various challenges they face such as limited access to essential resources like fertilizers or quality livestock as well as issues with irrigation systems and lack of financial support for their operations. Adverse weather conditions like rainfall or drought coupled with extreme temperatures can negatively impact crop production leading to lower yields and a rise in pest related issues affecting the agricultural sector. For those involved in fishing activities, marine heatwaves and coastal floods can harm fish populations and damage infrastructure crucial for their livelihoods, putting food security and income sources at risk.

Around 80% of the agricultural labor force is led by women and they play a role in producing about 93 percent of the food supply; however, they are especially impacted by climate change compared to men and other factors like higher illiteracy rates and restricted access to land and resources as well as cultural norms that limit their decision-making authority in farming matters.
In the face of these obstacles and difficulties, lies the chance to enhance resilience by adopting innovative methods rooted in system based transformational strategies. One potential the project seeks is to enhance climate resilience within societies reliant on natural assets through ecosystem

restoration efforts and enhancements through extension services while also enabling financial access and fostering sustainable value chains.

The project will employ a combination of interventions that focus on i) the adoption of resilient and regenerative practices among farmers and fisherfolks to improve productivity while at the same time reducing environmental impacts, ii) linking local livelihoods to sustainable value chains, developing alternative livelihood strategies such as those linked to eco-tourism, and fostering market access through business skills training, and iii) providing an enabling innovative finance environment that fosters private sector engagement, links actors along the value chain and scales the development of sustainable enterprises based along the value chain.

The project is expected to enhance the management of 3,640 hectares of land and coastal regions in efforts to promote climate resilient practices; target an overall 81,800 individuals spread across seven project counties. These efforts aim to empower them to recognize climate related challenges and implement appropriate adaptive strategies. Additionally, the initiative strives to attract 500,000 (US$) investments from private sector entities and support the growth of 30 micro-small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) involved in climate resilience initiatives through a combination of technical guidance, financial partnerships, or direct funding.

The Environmental Protection Agency as the National Designated Authority (NDA) and focal entity for the management of the environment and natural resources in Liberia is empowered to coordinate monitor, supervise and consult with relevant stakeholders on all activities in the protection of the environment and sustainable use of natural resources. The Environmental Agency (EPA), in close collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture (MOA), Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MoCI) and the Ministry of Information, Culture & Tourism (MICAT) will implement the project through a Project Management Unit, based at the EPA. The UNDP – as an Accredited Entity to the GEF – will oversee the project execution undertaken to ensure that the project is being carried out in accordance with UNDP and GEF policies and procedures and will provide quality assurance support services to the SARTLA project.

The Project Management Unit (PMU) will assist the implementation of the Project with support from the EPA and MOA. The PMU staff will be hosted at the MoA and will report to the Minister of MOA and the EPA-ED through the Project Manager. The Project Manager is responsible for the overall day-to-day management of the project including the mobilization of all project inputs, supervision over project staff, responsible parties, consultants and sub-contractors. The PMU – through the project manager – provides strategic guidance and direction to the Project Board, the Executive Director/CEO of the EPA, the Minister of MOA, and the UNDP Liberia Resident Representative.

OBJECTIVE

To provide strategic technical oversight to create and oversee the use of financial methods that support the environmental goals of the project. This involves finding ways to gather resources and secure funding either from the private sector or other sources in line with the project's objectives.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Under the guidance, direction and the supervision of the Project Manager, the Innovative Finance Expert shall perform the following duties and responsibilities:

- Create or develop financial tools or strategies tailored to the project's needs.
- Create plans outlining proposals for new financial support and lay out the supporting business justifications and operational structures.
- Engage with funders/private sectors or collaborators to discuss the possibility and potential for joint investment opportunities.
- Engage effectively with stakeholders such as government bodies, businesses in the private sector, banks and financial institutions, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and local community groups to foster collaboration.
- Support initiatives that help improve knowledge and adoption of financial solutions among parties involved with the project.
- Provide support with the execution of strategies and mechanisms.
- Identify financial gaps and support resource mobilization to address such gaps
- Create systems to monitor and assess the outcomes and environmental effects of the strategies developed while also tracking their social advantages.
- Generate updates detailing the progress made so far along with insights gained and suggestions for expansion.

EXPECTED OUTPUTS AND DELIVERABLES

Strategic technical support is given to the project team both on and off-site to ensure that the SARTLA Project addresses any financial gap identified.

- Develop a detailed and creative financial strategy.
- Private Sector engagement
- Working closely with the Knowledge Management and Communication Expert, prepare factsheets and briefs showing projects results, success stories and a need for scale up.
- Develop financial tools and mechanisms such as proposals, etc.

INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

The Innovative Finance Expert will be under the direct supervision and guidance of the Project Manager and will work closely with the PMU team.

The Innovative Finance Expert shall report directly to the Executive Director of the EPA who shall then submit the report to the Minister of Agriculture and the Executive Director of the EPA.

The Innovative Finance Expert shall be recruited for a period of 1 year (12 months) under a Service Contract appointment renewable for a period of 5 years (duration of the Project) subject to satisfactory performance. The EPA and MoA reserve the right to rescind the contract during that period should the performance of Finance Expert does not meet its requirements.

QUALIFICATIONS

Education

- The Innovative Finance Expert should have a master's degree in finance, economics or related field, coupled with extensive experience in developing and implementing innovative financing solutions

Experience

- A minimum of 3 years practical experience in innovative agriculture finance, including roles in policy advisory, consulting, or project management,
- Experience with blended finance mechanisms, impact investment funds, social impact bonds, and other innovative financing instruments
- Experience working with diverse stakeholders, including governments, private sector entities, and international organizations
- Strong financial modeling and structuring capabilities are essential
- Expertise in resource mobilization tools and strategies, including public-private partnerships, is highly valued
- Proficiency in financial and data analysis, as well as understanding return-on-investment tools, is crucial.
- Demonstrated knowledge of private sector engagement
- Very good experience with project development, implementation or management
- Familiar with the donor landscape
- Experience in working and collaborating with government institutions, UNDP and private sector
- Extensive working experience in Liberia
- Excellent knowledge of English including writing and communication skills
- Possess excellent technical skills in socio-economic and project performance assessment
- Demonstrated experience in monitoring and evaluation of development project activities

- Ability to write clearly and concisely, and have sound quantitative skills (managing, analyzing and interpreting data)
- Experience in planning, monitoring and evaluation and having good computer knowledge of database software like MS, PowerPoint & Excel
- Detailed knowledge familiarity in the five major areas of stakeholder engagement, information and knowledge, policy and legislation development, management and implementation, and monitoring and evaluation
- Experience working with best practices for integrating global environmental priorities into planning, decision-making, and reporting processes
- Experience in development work, partnerships building and resource mobilization

Competencies and skills

- Excellent team player, communication, interpersonal, and stakeholder engagement skills
- Ability to synthesize complex technical information into accessible messages
- Ability to manage workload with minimum supervision
- Ability to work under pressure and tight deadlines
- Ability to accommodate additional demands at short notice
- Ability to work in a multi-cultural environment
- Oral communication/presentation skills
- Proactive mindset
- Experience in working with the EPA or UNDP funded activities/projects

SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION

Interested candidates should send a CV, cover letter indicating their suitability for the post and copies of credentials to the Environmental Protection Agency. All interested candidates are to address their applications and to the following address:

ATTENTION:

Mr. Pescee T. Doe
Assistant Director/Procurement
Environment Protection Agency (EPA)
Bright Building 302 A, Sekou Toure Avenue
Mamba Point
1000 Monrovia, 10 Liberia
P.O. Box 4024

Application can also be received through email: (ptdoe@epa.gov.lr). Please indicate **'Innovative Finance Expert – Strengthening agricultural resilience through transformational livelihood adaptation in Liberia (SARTLA)'** in the subject line.

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***Female candidates are encouraged to apply!**

The closing date for submission of applications is **4pm, October 23, 2025**. Any submission received after this deadline will not be considered. Only applicants that meet the requirements as outlined in the terms of reference will be considered for evaluation.

NOTE: This information is also posted on https://www.emansion.gov.lr/, https://www.epa.gov.lr/, https://www.undp.org/ and can be found in local dailies.

SELECTION CRITERIA

The EPA shall recruit the Innovative Finance Expert through an open, transparent and competitive process and shall be guided by *inter alia* the Procurement and Public Concessions Act of Liberia but contract to be issued by the MOA. All PMU staff shall conform to the Government of Liberia's laws on anti-bribery and anti-corruption. Notice is hereby issued to all interested candidates that failure to adhere to conflict-of-interest restrictions and anti-fraud and corruption rules constitute grounds for potential debarment from future participation in the procurement of goods, services or works that may result from the Project.