



POSITION TITLE:	Technical Officer (Agri-Business Development)	GRADE LEVEL:	P-4
ORGANIZATIONAL UNIT:	Emergency Operations Service (TCEO)	DUTY STATION:	Freetown, Sierra Leone
	Emergency Operations and Rehabilitation Division (TCE) Technical Cooperation Department	DURATION *:	Twelve months (with possibility of extension subject continuity of funds)
		POST CODE/N ^o :	N- ** Unidentified
		CCOG CODE:	1.S.0.1.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

In 2009, the Government of Sierra Leone launched the Smallholder Commercialisation Programme (SCP), which includes six components: (i) Improving smallholder production & commercialisation through support to Farmer-Based Organizations (FBOs) and Agricultural Business Centres (ABCs); (ii) Developing small-scale irrigation to boost rice production; (iii) Rehabilitating feeder roads; (iv) Providing access to financial services; (v) Providing a social safety net to vulnerable households and (vi) Planning, coordination, monitoring and evaluation. In June 2010, the "Global Agriculture and Food Security Programme" (GAFSP) approved a proposal to support the SCP. Under the GAFSP, FAO provides technical support for the capacity development of SCP stakeholders at all levels, particularly for SCP Component 1 (outreach to FBOs and ABCs) and Component 6 (planning, monitoring and evaluation). FAO's technical assistance team for the SCP will include four international specialists.

Under the overall joint supervision of the FAO Representative in Sierra Leone and of the Chief of the Emergency Operations Service (TCEO), the technical supervision of the Lead Technical Unit (LTU) of FAO, and in close collaboration with the SCP National Coordinator and the GAFSP Manager, the incumbent will:

- Serve as a technical resource person on all matters concerning micro-, small- and medium-scale agriculture-based enterprise development, linkages with the financial sector, commercial legal issues, and advocacy for business-enabling policies.
- Provide analyses and recommendations to the SCP Coordination and the Component 1 Technical Team to formulate strategies related to all institutional and business areas of the SCP.
- Analyse the critical factors determining the functioning of Agricultural Business Centres, ABC district and national networks and adapt the design and implementation based on the findings.
- Design and participate in the delivery of capacity-building on small- and medium-scale business development for a broad target group (programme staff, service providers, FBOs and ABC management and members), as is commensurate with their needs and level of education with these concepts.
- Mentor and strengthen the Component 1 Technical Team and decentralised district staff capacity through appropriate on-the-job training.
- Analyse and develop strategies to strengthen selected value chains with the potential for smallholder commercialisation including the development of models for Public Private Partnerships and contract grower schemes.
- Design and carry out economic analyses of ABCs and other specialised studies to document best practices and share lessons learned with implementing partners and other stakeholders.
- Participate in the assessment/validation of material requirements (equipment, supplies, facilities) for the undertaking of activities as per the ABCs' business plans.
- Perform other related duties as required.

** APPOINTMENT/PROMOTION TO THIS POSITION IS TEMPORARY, WITH POSSIBILITY OF EXTENSION

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

Candidates should meet the following:

- University degree in agriculture, economics, social sciences, or related field
- Seven years of relevant experience in agri-business development in an international development setting
- Working knowledge of English.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Candidates will be assessed against the following:

- Level and relevance of academic qualifications. (An advanced university degree is an asset.)
- Demonstrated experience working in developing country programmes, including bilateral and multilateral donor agencies and private foundations
- Extent and relevance of experience in the financial and economic analysis of small and medium enterprises and the development of value chains
- Proven ability to work as a part of a team but be self-managing of own time and results
- Excellent writing, communication, presentation, and organizational skills
- Familiarity with Sierra Leone would be an asset
- Basic knowledge of agricultural machinery operation (tillers, mills, etc.) would be an asset.

CANDIDATES ARE INFORMED THAT THE SELECTION PROCESS WILL INCLUDE, FOR SHORT-LISTED CANDIDATES, A WRITTEN EXERCISE ON SUBJECTS RELEVANT TO THE SELECTION CRITERIA.

Please note that all candidates should possess computer/word processing skills and should be capable of working with people of different national and cultural backgrounds.

** The length of appointment for internal FAO candidates will be established in accordance with applicable policies pertaining to the extension of appointments*

REMUNERATION

Level P4 carries a net salary per year (inclusive of a variable element for post adjustment) from US\$ to US\$ (without dependants) and from US\$ to US\$ (with dependants)

TO APPLY: Carefully read and follow the [Guidelines to applicants](#)

Send your application to: V.A TCEO-742-11-PRJ
 Chief, TCEO
 FAO Viale delle Terme di Caracalla 00153 Rome ITALY
 Fax No: +39 06 57054941
 E-mail: VA-742-11-PRJ-TCEO@fao.org

*This vacancy is open to male and female candidates. Applications from qualified women candidates and applications from qualified candidates from non/under-represented member states are encouraged. Please note that **FAO** staff members are international civil servants subject to the authority of the Director-General and may be assigned to any activities or office of the organization.*

FAO IS A NON-SMOKING ENVIRONMENT

GUIDELINES TO APPLICANTS

Examine carefully the relevancy of your qualifications by reviewing the Duties & Responsibilities of the position and the requirements that are needed in order to perform the job successfully.

HOW TO APPLY

Please provide a **completed FAO Personal History Form**, found on the Internet site.

- Your application should be typewritten (where possible), signed and dated.
- Clearly indicate in the appropriate box on the Personal History Form and on the front of your application, the title of the post and the Vacancy Number.
- Submit a separate application for each position for which you are applying.
- Send your application to the address (mail, e-mail, or fax) indicated on the Vacancy Announcement.
- Internal candidates should provide 10 copies of their application.

Applicants will be contacted directly if selected for an interview.

FILLING IN THE FAO PERSONAL HISTORY FORM

LANGUAGE SKILLS

Please list the languages with which you are familiar, beginning with your mother tongue, indicating the extent of your knowledge as:

- Excellent/Good = Working knowledge: You will be expected to work independently using the language required, to prepare a variety of written communications (correspondence, reports, working papers, etc...), to participate actively in meetings and in work-related discussions, etc.
- Fair = Limited knowledge: You will be expected to follow work related discussions or meetings, even though you may wish to intervene in another official language. You will be expected to participate in simple conversations, to use the telephone, to read and understand work-related texts and to write simple communications, etc.
- Slight

COMPUTER SKILLS

- Indicate your word processing skills and knowledge of database/spreadsheet (e.g. Excel, Access), or any other office automation software known and used.
- If applicable, specify your work experience in data entry/retrieval and programming skills. Indicate knowledge of programming languages and operating systems.

ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS

Starting with the present and going in back in time, please give details of:

- Period of study with name and location of the academic institution,
- Title of study obtained, both in the original language and in English, indicating the subject(s) of specialization and year degree* was/is to be awarded,
- List any other relevant training or formal education that may be relevant to your application.

If selected for an interview, you will be expected to provide FAO with certified copies of your academic qualifications.

** A university degree is a title of study substantiated by at least 3 years of full time study (equivalent to a BA or BSc) from a bona fide institution. An advanced university degree is equivalent to a Masters degree.*

EXPERIENCE

- Relevant professional experience is counted from the time of attainment of the first relevant degree.
- Endeavour to demonstrate how your experience meets the requirements of the post.

OTHER INFORMATION

- If applicable, give the number of publications and provide a list and the dates of the most relevant publications.
- Provide samples of written work only upon request.