INTERNAL/EXTERNAL VACANCY

Title: Gender & Youth Specialist
Project Name: Forest Incomes for Environmental Sustainability (FIFES)
Location: Monrovia
Department: Programs
Supervisor: Deputy Chief of Party

BACKGROUND:
FIFES’ overall goal is to develop key rural forest-based enterprises that provide inclusive, sustainable, economic opportunities for rural farmers and forest-dependent communities in a way that also combats deforestation and biodiversity loss.

The project objectives are to:
- Strengthen selected forest and agricultural value chains
- Establish legal and management frameworks for forest enterprises
- Enhance knowledge and skills for forest enterprises and landscape management

JOB SUMMARY:
The Gender and Youth Specialist will provide technical guidance in the final year of Liberia FIFES to support gender and youth integration efforts across the program. He/she will review the current FIFES gender and youth strategy, assess progress, and collaborate with FIFES staff to implement practical next steps to maximize impact and learning in the final year of the project. He/she will lead the process of starting up youth conservation clubs at high schools located near program Community Forest Management Body (CFMB) Hubs to increase youth participation and sustainable engagement in conservation efforts. He/she will support the capture of learning about the financial and social impacts of FIFES-supported women’s savings groups and provide recommendations for future programming.

ACDI/VOCA is in search of one (1) qualified person to occupy the vacant position in Monrovia, with frequent field visits.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:
Gender and Youth Specialist is responsible for the following tasks as well as other duties that may be assigned.
- Lead review of the FIFES Gender and Youth Strategy, assess progress, and collaborate with project staff to identify and implement activities that enhance women and girls’ empowerment and youth engagement in the program’s final year.
- Oversee and report on the implementation of the Gender and Youth Strategy and ensure that it is coordinated with the overall program work plan.
- Develop positive relationships with local Community Forest Management Body (CFMB) Hubs and other stakeholders, identify opportunities to build their gender and youth awareness and support.
- Establish, lead and coordinate youth conservation clubs, providing guidance and direction on the formation and implementation of the conservation clubs as well as the club curricula.
- Support the capture of learning about the financial and social impacts of FIFES-supported women’s savings groups and provide recommendations for current and future programming.
- Collaborate with technical staff to ensure that project interventions are gender sensitive in material development, technology development, training delivery and beneficiary targeting/selection.
- Engage stakeholders, including family members and community leaders, to gain their support for women and youth participation in FIFES activities.
- Collaborate with MEL staff to ensure that gender and youth impacts and resource utilization are tracked, monitored, analyzed, and reported.
- Participate in work planning and other strategic planning meetings and sessions to advise FIFES colleagues on gender integration and youth engagement.
- Represent FIFES on the ACDI/VOCA Gender and Social Inclusion Community of Practice.
- Contribute to and write success stories and reports about FIFES’ gender and youth approaches and interventions that highlight successes and lesson learned regarding women’s empowerment, gender integration, and youth engagement.

Qualifications:

- Bachelor’s degree preferably in sociology, agronomy, behavioral economics, gender studies, or youth development, or another related field is required.
- Minimum of four years of progressively responsible experience in Liberia in development programming focused on mainstreaming gender and/or youth into agriculture, natural resource management, conservation, or food security programs.
- Clear knowledge and understanding of gender and youth relationships and challenges within the region, particularly related to agriculture, forestry, socioeconomic empowerment and food security is required.
- Prior experience managing, directing, organizing or leading youth clubs or groups, preferably in an agriculture, conservation, or rural context.
- Prior experience supporting, establishing, leading, supervising, or facilitating village savings and loan or savings groups.
- Understanding of/experience implementing Positive Youth Development approaches.
- Strong analytical skills, including ability to gather and analyze a variety of information pertaining to issues and to develop appropriate recommendations for action.
• Experience building relationships across a variety of stakeholders in a complex system and building alignment towards shared goals.
• Ability to work independently, cooperatively and effectively with staff and stakeholders across a variety of contexts and schedules.
• Skilled at managing and setting personal priorities. Willingness to seek out support when running into obstacles.
• Excellent communication and interpersonal skills. Skilled at strategic communication for the audience and context.
• Strong written communication skills, including demonstrated ability to write required documents in a clear, concise, well-organized manner.
• Ability to work flexibly and collaboratively in a team under quick deadlines.
• Strong English written and oral communication skills required.
• All candidates will need to provide a writing sample.

Deadline for submission of application: 27th December 2019 at 4:00 P. M.
Applicants within Monrovia and its environs may apply in the following manner: Application should be submitted in hard copy addressed to the HR Manager, ACDI/VOCA-FIFES Program, 16th Street, Sinkor, Coleman Avenue, Monrovia, Liberia. Please indicate on the back of the envelope: “Gender & Youth Specialist”. Applicants outside of Monrovia & within Monrovia may use the following email address to send in their applications: fifeshrdistro@acdivoca-fifes.org. These applications should include the position title: “Gender & Youth Specialist” in the subject line. ACDI/VOCA is an equal opportunity employer; therefore, FEMALE CANDIDATES ARE ENCOURAGED TO APPLY. ONLY SHORTLISTED APPLICANTS WILL BE CONTACTED.