

“WE ARE RECRUITING EXPERTS”

Position title: **Project Manager PSD Liberia**

Mission country: Liberia, based in Monrovia

Duration: long-term (12 months, renewable up to 48 months)

Start date: 1st October 2025

Sector: Business climate and economic integration, Agriculture and natural resources

Deadline for responses: 31.08.2025

Project name and description: ***Private Sector Development in Liberia (PSD Liberia)***

Liberia's private sector holds significant potential for driving economic growth, decent job creation, and poverty reduction. However, this potential remains untapped due to structural weaknesses in economic governance, a challenging business environment, and an unfavourable investment climate. These systemic constraints, combined with underdeveloped value chains in the cassava, fisheries, and wood sector, limit opportunities for inclusive and sustainable economic transformation.

At the same time, these issues present clear entry points for targeted interventions under this Action, aiming to improve economic conditions, strengthen key value chains, and support private sector growth and create the business environment and investment climate in which they can flourish.

The **Overall Objective of the Action** is to contribute to increase the competitiveness, inclusivity and environmental sustainability of cassava, fisheries and wood processing value chains for enhanced decent job creation, economic growth, and competitiveness of Liberian MSMEs. The Action also takes into consideration strategic approaches aimed at addressing structural barriers to decent work opportunities for all Liberians, including Persons with Disabilities (PWDs), thereby facilitating their active involvement and contribution to Liberia's labour market.

The **Specific Objective (outcome) of the Action** aims to ensure that MSMEs, with a focus on enterprises owned by women, youth and persons with disabilities, within the three targeted value chains increase their productivity and production quality so they can offer decent and inclusive job conditions while committing to environmental sustainability standards. However, this may occur only if the

general ecosystem, including access to skills and business development services, is improved, therefore requiring policy dialogue at all stages of project implementation, involving the public and private sector, and EU and Liberian MSMEs.

The Action will focus on the two main areas of intervention and the related challenges: **private sector development and value chain development** (cassava, fisheries and wood).

Three components for the implementation of the Action have been defined as follows:

- **Component 1:** Improved regulatory frameworks through PPD, including a high level policy dialogue platform, and Institutional Capacity Development for a more conducive business and investment climate in line with sustainable and inclusive international standards.
- **Component 2:** Improved skills of MSMEs within the three target value chains, with particular emphasis on enterprises owned by women, youth and persons with disabilities.
- **Component 3:** Enhanced capacity of national stakeholders for creating employment and improved access to decent work opportunities for all, including marginalised groups (youth, women and persons with disabilities) for better skills, livelihoods and workplace accountability in line with International Labour Standards.

The Action is financed by the European Union and will be co-implemented by Expertise France and the International Labour Organisation (ILO).

Description of the mission:

Under the authority of the Head of the Economic and Commercial Policies Division and with operational relations with the agency's Project Officers at EF headquarters, the **Project Manager** will have a central role in the successful implementation of the Action, as he/she will be responsible for the overall planning and supervision of the project, ensuring its alignment with contractual obligations, stakeholders' expectations, and project objectives. His/ her role will be strategic as he/ she will be the direct counterpart and maintain strong relationships with the EU Delegation and project stakeholders, including partners and beneficiaries, and other actors on the ground. He/she will manage the team, ensure the smooth coordination with the ILO and other implementing partners, as well as with HQ. He/ she will also assemble the technical and financial reports from the different partners and oversee the fulfilling of the targets set in the log frame. The following list of assignments is not exhaustive and other tasks may also be assigned to him/her if necessary.

Representation and stakeholders' engagement:

- Act as the primary representative of the Action to the EU Delegation, government authorities, project partners, and other key stakeholders;
- Foster collaborative relationships and good institutional relations with all parties, ensuring alignment of activities with national priorities and international standards;

- Ensure close collaboration with the various partners and project stakeholders by ensuring the good governance of the project and by being responsible for the necessary level of knowledge and ownership of the various stakeholders;
- Ensure the smooth flow of information between all partners and stakeholders;

Strategic alignment:

- Coordinate with other donors and international actors active in areas such as private sector and value chain development, particularly in close collaboration with the EU Delegation;
- Promote synergies and complementarity and avoid duplication of efforts with other actions in place;

Project implementation and coordination:

- Lead the definition and implementation of the project by coordinating activities across all components and outcomes, ensure that all deliverables are achieved within the planned time frame and budget;
- Supervise the implementation of activities, provide strategic guidance, and ensure the integration of cross-cutting themes such as gender equality, youth and PWD inclusion, and climate resilience;
- Supervise the monitoring of the project and activity performance indicators;
- Supervise the overall budget planning and execution and the coherence with the operational planning;
- Supervise the development and the implementation of a visibility strategy for the project in line with the EU's communication guidelines;

Reporting and accountability:

- Facilitate and support the reporting of information through the implementation of tools, best practices, and working methods to ensure close and high-quality technical monitoring;
- Ensure timely and high-quality reporting to the EU Delegation and other stakeholders, including technical and financial reports, and ensure the integration and the quality control of ILO reports;
- Guarantee compliance with contractual obligations (particularly in terms of planning, monitoring and reporting) and Expertise France's operational standards, esp. in terms of procurement, financial execution and financial monitoring;
- Prepare Steering Committees and technical committees together with the project team (Deputy Project Manager and Key Experts) and ensure the secretariat;
- Liaise with EF HQ and ensure a smooth flow of information;
- Capitalise on and disseminate results of the different activities and the overall project;

Team management and coordination:

- With support of EF HQ, hire the different team members nationally and internationally;

- Manage, coordinate and supervise the project team in Liberia and provide guidance to coordinators, and support staff, taking strategic directions to ensure that the project achieves its objectives;
- Identify together with the individual team members their needs in terms of training and support;
- Facilitate regular team meetings and plan team activities to ensure a smooth project implementation and coordination between the different team members and project components;
- Ensure the supervision of staff performance, set individual objectives for each team member, ensure workload management and hold individual annual performance evaluation meetings;
- Ensure compliance with EF's security rules and supervise that the team respects the security guidelines especially during field trips.

Qualifications and competences:

- Master's degree (BAC +5) in development project management, development economics, management, economics or any other subject relevant to the project;
- Mastery of the fundamentals of international project management and successful professional experience in the field of international cooperation, experiences on the implementation of EU funded projects would be a plus;
- Excellent command of strategic planning methods and the project cycle;
- Good understanding of private sector development and ecosystem development;
- Experiences in the field of value chain development, esp. in agriculture, fisheries and/or forestry would be an asset;
- Good understanding of the ecosystem in Liberia and the sub region;
- Excellent writing and reporting skills in English (drafting technical, strategic, or activity reports related to project execution, drafting memos or informational articles); including written and oral communication skills, namely the ability to formulate positions on sensitive issues and defend them before authorities;
- Knowledge of Expertise France's procedures and/ or EU procedures would be an asset;
- Good interpersonal, diplomatic, communication and teamwork skills, especially when working with government representatives, EU Delegations and other high level representatives;
- Ability to work in a volatile environment characterized by significant vulnerabilities;
- Excellent organisational skills;
- Autonomy, flexibility and responsiveness.

Professional experience:

- At least 15 years' professional experience in planning and implementing international cooperation projects and programmes, with a preference in the field of private sector development;
- At least 5 years of experience as a project manager or team leader on a large-scale institutional technical assistance or capacity-building project with substantial budgets;

- Experience in coordinating and implementing large development cooperation projects with multiple stakeholders and partners;
- Proven experience in managing large international project teams;
- Relevant work experience in establishing and facilitating institutional dialogue with various stakeholders, ability to build trusting relationships and foster them;
- Experiences on issues like women's economic empowerment, youth employment and inclusion of persons with disabilities would be an asset;
- Field experience in Liberia and/ or the sub region of at least 3 years.

Additional information:

- Location of the mission: Monrovia, Liberia
- Duration of the mission: 12 months, renewable up to 48 months
- Starting date of the position: 1st October 2025

Documents to be provided:

Applications must include:

- A CV;
- A motivation letter;
- A list of references.

Candidate(s) interested in this opportunity should submit their application as soon as possible, with Expertise France maintaining the option of establishing a shortlist before this date.

The selection process for expressions of interest will take place in two stages:

- In the first stage, a shortlist will be freely established by Expertise France.
- In the second stage, the candidate(s) selected may be invited for a first technical interview followed by a second interview with HR.