



Wetlands International Africa - West Coast and Gulf of Guinea
Sierra Leone Office
ToR Internship – Practical Training: Community Livelihoods

Title: Community Livelihoods Assistant (CLA)

Supervisor: National Coordinator

Coordinates with: national team,

Place of work: Sierra Leone Office, Freetown

Start Date: August 2026

BACKGROUND

Wetlands International is an international non-governmental organization dedicated to wetland conservation and restoration, organized as a network of independent legal entities. It has several regional or national offices in Africa and around the world.

Since 2018, the Association Zone Humides d'Afrique - Wetlands International Afrique Côte Occidentale et Golfe de Guinée (WIACO) has been designing and implementing programs in an ecoregion that covers Coastal West Africa and the Gulf of Guinea. It is a foreign association under Senegalese law recognized by ministerial decree. WIACO is a member of the Wetlands International network.

The regional office is developing its new strategy for the period 2026 – 2030 and launched the implementation of major programs in the conservation and restoration of mangroves, seagrass beds, wetlands in the landscape such as rivers/tributaries, etc., adaptation to climate change, and the conservation of waterbirds while seeking to consolidate its achievements in basin management and increase its geographical coverage. WIACO operates two project offices in Guinea Bissau and Sierra Leone. WIACO also implements Mangrove Capital Africa (MCA), a mangrove regional restoration program which has recently extended in Sierra Leone where mangrove ecosystems play a vital role in coastal protection, food security, artisanal fishing and the livelihoods of local communities.

In Sierra Leone, in the framework of MCA, WIACO national Office is implementing a series of community-based interventions for the restoration, conservation, and sustainable management of mangroves in the coastal landscape of Yawri Bay. This landscape constitutes an ecosystem of major ecological importance, harboring mangrove forests that support the livelihoods of local communities through fishing, agriculture, timber harvesting, and various essential ecosystem services, including coastal protection and biodiversity conservation.

As part of the implementation of the MCA program, WIACO works in collaboration with local communities, government authorities, technical services, community organizations, NGOs and

private sector actors to strengthen natural resource governance, promote sustainable livelihoods and improve the resilience of coastal communities to climate change and anthropogenic pressures. However, the challenges related to mangrove degradation, pressure on natural resources, poor coordination of actors involved in the landscape and lack of local technical expertise require enhanced support on the ground.

In this context, Wetlands International Africa is recruiting a project manager with wetland technical focus responsible for supporting the implementation of mangrove restoration and sustainable management activities in the project's intervention areas in Sierra Leone.

In this context, WIACO is recruiting a community development assistant to provide technical and operational support to sustainable livelihoods activities in Sierra Leone project interventions.

Tasks

Working on a quarterly plan defined by the national coordinator the CLA will perform technical implementation of sustainable livelihoods activities of the MCA program in project areas. S/he will :

- Implement livelihood activities in beneficiary communities;
- Identify, support and strengthen income-generating activities (IGAs) adapted to the local context;
- Provide technical support to community groups, cooperatives and local organizations partnering with the project;
- Participate in the development of work plans, budgets and technical reports;
- Contribute to the establishment and monitoring of community savings and credit systems;
- Organize training and capacity-building sessions on entrepreneurship, financial management, value chains and sustainable economic activities;
- Monitor indicators related to livelihoods and populate monitoring and evaluation tools;
- Contribute to the integration of gender, youth and social inclusion approaches into the project's activities;
- Participate in field missions, workshops, community meetings and awareness-raising activities;
- Contribute to the documentation of best practices, lessons learned and success stories;
- Perform any other task reasonably related to his/her function and assigned by the hierarchy.

REQUIRED SKILLS AND QUALIFICATIONS

Education

The ideal candidate must hold at least a higher degree (Bachelor's or equivalent) in one of the following fields: Rural Development; Economics; Natural Resource Management; Agronomy / Agroforestry; Community Development; Entrepreneurship; or any other relevant field.

Experience and Basic Skills

The ideal candidate will have about 1 year of experience or previous internships in a similar field or in like-minded organisations. S/he will be a highly motivated individual and eager to learn new skill.

The candidate must demonstrate strong interest and willingness to learn and some experience in the fields of: Income-generating activities (IGAs); Value chains; Financial inclusion; Savings and credit groups; Community resilience; Community conservation and climate change adaptation.

He/she will be familiar with the environment in Sierra Leone will have the following skills:

- A good understanding of Income generating activities
- A strong ability to work in a team and in a multicultural environment;
- Initiative and autonomy and knowing when to refer to the supervisor;
- A good command of spoken and written English and basic computer tools;
- Willingness to make frequent trips to the field;
- An ability to work in rural and coastal areas;
- Knowledge of local Sierra Leonean languages

Preferences

- Good communication and community facilitation skills;
- Quick learner
- Intermediate knowledge of French.

CONTRACT

Successful candidate will be offered a one internship in accordance with applicable regulations and WIACO's internal policies.

Application

Applications including a cover letter (1 page maximum) and a (2 pages maximum) will be sent to the following address: rh@wetlands-africa.org with subject "application_CLA_name of candidate

Deadline for receipt: 08th July 2026