



**Position:** Chief of Party – Capacity Building Specialist

**Opportunity Type:** Full-Time

Connexus | [www.connexuscorporation.com](http://www.connexuscorporation.com)

**Location:** Maseru, Lesotho

### **About the Organization**

Connexus Corporation is an international development consulting firm that provides consulting services in agricultural development, training and capacity building, gender outreach, finance, and other areas. Connexus' mission is to provide high quality global consulting services to transform international development and build local capacity. Connexus is an equal opportunity employer and all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, sexual orientation, or gender identity.

### **About the Job**

Connexus is seeking a Chief of Party – Capacity Building Specialist for an anticipated new project with MCA Lesotho, to be based in Lesotho. The Chief of Party will be responsible for the overall management and leadership of the project, ensuring quality control and strategic leadership to pursue the following objectives: 1) increase the quantity and quality of horticultural production in targeted zones; 2) increase access to finance and investment for horticultural value chain actors; 3) strengthen partnerships with private sector; and 4) improve quality of extension services available to farmers.

### **Tasks and Responsibilities**

- Provide overall leadership of the project, including technical activity oversight, staff supervision, partner relationship management, and monitoring and evaluation.
- Serve as primary liaison between MCA Lesotho, the Government of Lesotho, and other project stakeholders.
- Work with staff to create a strategy for integrating the project's technical components and ensuring that all work plan benchmarks are met and that all staff are optimized in their performance.
- Create partnerships and alliances with private sector firms.
- Help aggregators establish strong relationships to producer groups.
- Strengthen extension services accessible to farmers.
- Identify and court major buyers and exporters of produce to create long-term projects with local producer groups.
- Work with finance partners to develop strategic approaches and workplans for farmers.
- Ensure contract compliance, reporting, security policies, and program results.
- Develop annual workplans, quarterly reviews, and updates to achieve targets and objectives.

### **Qualifications**

- Master's degree or equivalent in business, finance, agricultural economics, or agriculture.
- At least 15 years of relevant experience leading multi-sectoral teams in complex projects at managerial level.
- At least ten years leading capacity building/training projects in commercial agriculture, with components related to gender and user-centered social development approaches.
- Experience managing at least one project in Sub-Saharan Africa required, implementing programs related to agri-business, agricultural support services, agricultural extension, and or agricultural finance, training and capacity building.
- Prior experience as a Chief of Party or significant management responsibilities for a program of comparable complexity.

- Demonstrated ability to work collaboratively with institutional and private sector partners and stakeholders.
- Demonstrated understanding of MCA or USAID requirements, including for M&E, knowledge management, branding, and reporting.
- Excellent written communication skills, including ability to produce high-quality project reports.
- Fluency in English required; knowledge of local languages a plus.

**Deadline: January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024**

**How to Apply:** Interested candidates can send their resume and cover letter to [careers@connexus.email](mailto:careers@connexus.email) with “COP – MCA Lesotho Activity” in the subject line. No phone calls please.