Training Lead – Your Virtual Cold Chain Assistant Project

Description and objectives

Coldtivate is a mobile application developed by the BASE Foundation and Empa Switzerland under the framework of the ‘Your Virtual Cold Chain Assistant’ (Your VCCA) project. In this project LeapEnergy, a USA company and partners in Nigeria offering off-grid cold rooms to smallholder farmers and petty traders, collaborates with BASE and Empa to deploy the application in cold rooms across Nigeria. The Coldtivate app has been developed to support cooling companies in the operations at the cold room, and to help smallholder farmers understand the benefits of cold storage, and can be used at no cost by both user types. The app:

- serves as a digital inventory management (i.e. cold room operators can use it to record all crops that are checked-in and checked-out from the room);
- can be used by cooling companies and users to remotely monitor the cold room temperature, occupancy, and revenue;
- has digital twin models integrated (for several fruits and vegetables, such as carrots, tomatoes, potatoes, mangos, citrus, pineapples, and green beans), that predict the remaining shelf-life of each crate in storage, allowing farmers to decide when their produce needs to be sold;
- features machine learning models that predict the future prices of selected commodities and show historical prices, to help farmers decide when and where to sell their produce.

The app is currently being piloted in a cold room in Delta state. To coordinate and train the users of the app, we are recruiting a Training Lead to deliver effective app usage training, coordinate postharvest workshops with farmers and traders, and support all activities related with piloting the Coldtivate app in the above mentioned cold room.

Your tasks include:

- Upon receiving training on Coldtivate from the Your VCCA team, provide technical support to LeapEnergy team on various aspects related to the usage of the Coldtivate app, the set up of temperature sensors, presenting the Cooling-as-a-Service business model to cooling users, and the monitoring and evaluation of the project.
- Conduct Onboarding Training for cold room operators ensuring proper execution of the pilot in the cold room. This includes, but is not limited to: register cooling users, regularly record check-in and check-out in the app, temperature monitoring, timely insertion of user survey data, notification to users about crates reaching the end of their storage life.
- Run workshops with farmers and traders to inform about the benefits of cooling, CaaS, and Coldtivate. BASE/ Empa and LeapEnergy will provide the training material and a tentative format for the workshops.
- Regularly travel to the pilot cold room to monitor the pilots on the ground, support operators and users when needed.
- Reporting - Responsible for providing reports to the project team to enhance visibility on field operations.

Requirements

- MSc in Engineering, Agricultural science, Computer Science or any related relevant field
- Must have completed National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) programme
- 2+ years’ training experience in Agricultural projects and/or Capability Development related fields e.g. mobile money, FMCG, or other Product/Services in Nigeria
- Experience working in rural settings is desirable
- Highly motivated individual
- Excellent command of written and spoken English
- Excellent presentation, communication, coaching, and people skills
- Good planning, organization, and conflict-resolution skills
- Ability to understand and speak Urhobor language is desirable
- Ability to motivate a wide array of people to perform
• Ability to work calmly under pressure

Benefits and compensation
• ₦250,000 per month for a contract period of 5 months (until 31/03/2024)
• Travel expense reimbursement during the contract duration

Remark
Further background information on the project can be found on the project website (https://yourvcca.org/) and the LeapEnergy website (https://www.leapenergy.io/).

Apply
If you want to apply, please send your CV, motivation letter, and supporting documents to info@yourvcca.org by November 6th, 2023.