



## **CANDIDATE BRIEF**

**KTP Associate – Department of Food Science, LAUTECH and Agro Park Development Company Limited**



**Salary: Competitive plus Training opportunities. (This position is not on the University salary scale).**

**Closing date: 15<sup>th</sup> March, 2023**

**Fixed-term for 15 months due to external funding for a fixed period**

**Based at the company partner's premises in Abeokuta, Nigeria**  
**Post: KTP Associate**

## **Department of Food Science, Ladoke Akintola University of Technology (LAUTECH) and Agro Park Development Company Limited**

Are you a graduate with aMScin Food technology, Food science, Agricultural Technology, PlantSciences, Industrial Chemistry /Biochemistry, or related disciplines from a recognised Nigerian university? Do you have a background inorganic chemistry/biochemistry? Are you keen to launch your career by managing a challenging project in industry?

We have an opportunity for you to fast-track your career in business by leading a high-profile, strategically important project from start to completion. The project will be assisted by the School of Food Science and Nutrition, Faculty of Environment with the University of Leeds <https://environment.leeds.ac.uk/> through a **Knowledge Transfer Partnership (KTP)**, you will be working in partnership with Agro Park Development Company Limited <https://www.agropark.ng/> in conjunction with the Department of Food Science <https://www.lautech.edu.ng/> with the Ladoke Akintola University of Technology, to develop harness and embed new scientific capability in food technology, to develop and bring to market a novel biopolymer-based coating preservative. In developing this preservative, postharvest losses and use of agrochemicals will be greatly reduced, and the quality and availability of produce will be increased.

Agro Park Development Company Limited is an all-round farmmanagement company involved in the 'farm-to-fork' agricultural value chain. Their mission is to sustainably utilise natural resources to drive economic growth andempowerment. The aim of this project is to increase productivity and profitability by reducing post-harvest losses and to pioneer new, first-in-class affordable and sustainable postharvest solutions (incompliance with new legislation) to enable company growth in existing and enter newexport markets. You will help the partnership to achieve its strategic goals usingscientificprocesses and procedures, formulations, and standards for enhancing thepreservation of perishable produce and minimising post-harvest lossesthat will allow Agro Park Development Company Limited to increaseproductivity, reduced postharvest losses and develop new products (biopolymer coatings)

You will be based at the company premises in Abeokuta, Nigeria, but will be employed by the Ladoke Akintola University of Technology, Ogbomoso for the duration of the project, a fixed period of 15 months. You will be required to spend some time at the University as well as undertaking occasional country wide travel, and potentially international travel. Members of the Department of Food Science will provide academic and technical support to you throughout the project.

You will have access to a training and development package to enable you to work effectively on your KTP project and to plan for your future career. You will also attend two weeks of residential KTP training in the United Kingdom to equip you with project management skills and knowledge required to complete the project successfully, for which time is allocated and funding provided.

## **What does the role entail?**

As a KTP Associate, your main duties will include:

- Understanding the commercial context of the project;
- Understanding the requirements of the end-user, and developing the product specification based on these;
- Creating comprehensive documentation & training materials for use of the products developed including training of the company's postharvest team.
- Keeping accurate records, including the creation of a repository for all knowledge generated during the KTP;
- End of project dissemination and communications.

These duties provide a framework for the role and should not be regarded as a definitive list. Other reasonable duties may be required consistent with the grade of the post.

## **What will you bring to the role?**

As a KTP Associate,

You will have:

- At least a BSc and MSc within Food technology, Food science, Agricultural Technology, Plant Sciences, Industrial Chemistry /Biochemistry, or related disciplines from a recognised Nigerian university;
- A sound background in organic chemistry/biochemistry or in postharvest management technologies.
- Strong analytical skills, with the ability to work accurately and carefully;
- The ability to design, execute and draw conclusions from research independently;
- Excellent communication skills, both written and verbal;
- The ability to adjust to different audiences including academic, business and the farming community;
- The ability to communicate your research to end-users, and to academics at national and international conferences and in other disciplines;
- The ability to work well both independently and as part of a team;

- Strong initiative and a proactive approach, with excellent organisational, planning and self-management skills, including the ability to prioritise workloads to meet deadlines/demand and deliver high quality work under pressure;
- Some industrial/work experience and a strong desire to develop a career in industry;

You may also have:

- Academic publications;
- Experience in new product development, managing projects and/or delivering tracked outputs;
- Ability to use statistical packages e.g. SPSS, R, GENSTAT etc.

## How to apply

You can apply for this role by submitting your curriculum Vitae (CV) and Cover letter/Application letter detailing how you meet the skills specification required for the role above. Application should be addressed to “**The Chair, KTP Associate Selection Committee**” and all documents should be submitted as a single document by email to [ifbolarinwa@lautech.edu.ng](mailto:ifbolarinwa@lautech.edu.ng) before 23.59 **pm** (WAT) on the 15<sup>th</sup> March, 2023.

## Contact information

To explore the post further or for any queries you may have, please contact:

**Islamiyat Bolarinwa, Associate Professor of Food Science - Ladoke Akintola University of Technology**

Email: [ifbolarinwa@lautech.edu.ng](mailto:ifbolarinwa@lautech.edu.ng)

## Additional information

Shortlisted candidates will be contacted via their e-mail.

### Interview location

Interviews will take place at the company premises at Agropark Ijale, Along Ayetoro Road Abeokuta North, ABEOKUTA, Nigeria, 110103.

**Working as a KTP Associate at Ladoke Akintola University of Technology, Ogbomoso.** You will be an employee of the Ladoke Akintola University of Technology, Ogbomoso and will have access to University facilities. However, you will be based for the majority of your time at the company premises, working to their terms.

