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Earlier, Lansana worked for the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) for nine years (2004-2013) and served in several capacities including, as the Coordinator of the United Nations Joint Programme on Food Security and Nutrition, Livelihood adviser, and Agricultural Market Development Specialist.

Before joining the United Nations, Lansana was the Policy Adviser at the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food Security (MAFFS) in Sierra Leone (2001-2004). He also worked as a research officer (agricultural economist) at the Africa Rice Centre in Bouake, Ivory Coast, and Rukupr, Sierra Leone with research focus on the economics of smallholder agricultural production, farming systems, participatory technology development, and gender analysis of agricultural value-chains, and markets.