



Job Title: Technical Director, CrossBoundary Distributed Energy

About the firm

CrossBoundary LLC provides investment and economic development services in frontier markets and conflict zones. Our clients have included governments, development finance institutions, private equity firms, Fortune 100 companies, and research institutions. Our mission is to unlock the power of capital to make a strong return and a lasting difference in frontier markets.

CrossBoundary has recently formed the Distributed Generation Funding Facility, an independent investment platform to invest into medium scale renewable distributed generation in East Africa.

Many businesses in Africa generate a significant portion of their own electricity through inside-the-fence diesel generation. Due to the cost of diesel, it would be economically and environmentally optimal for these businesses to switch to renewable generation through solar and other alternatives. However, businesses are ill equipped to take the financial and technical risk to finance a conversion to renewable inside-the-fence generation. At the same time, capital lacks a standardized platform to access these profitable but relatively small transactions.

To address this finance gap CrossBoundary has created the Distributed Generation Funding Facility, a platform to aggregate finance for medium scale renewable self-generation. The Facility will finance renewable generation projects (.5MW-5MW) that serve commercial customers in Africa such as off-grid light manufacturing, cell towers, farms, remote hospitals, eco-lodges and beverage bottlers. Our goal is to enable the delivery of energy-as-service and assist to unlock the latent opportunity for renewable own-generation in Africa.

Job Description

CrossBoundary is recruiting a full time Technical Director to lead the technical team of our Distributed Generation Funding Facility. The Technical Director will play a key role in building and managing a portfolio of off-grid renewable energy investments in Africa. We are seeking a highly motivated candidate with extensive previous experience in assessing, constructing and managing medium scale renewable energy assets. As Technical Director you will lead the technical assessment of potential investments and ongoing technical management of the portfolio.

CrossBoundary is not a development firm and is not seeking candidates with typical development skills; Technical Director candidates should have notable experience in renewable energy and possess strong technical skills. They must also have experience working in developing countries with experience in Africa regarded extremely favourably. Advanced qualifications in engineering or equivalent are required.

CrossBoundary operates in challenging markets that also hold immense opportunities. The chosen candidate will play an important role in a unique team with the opportunity to make a large impact on the renewable energy landscape in Africa.

Compensation

The Technical Director will receive a highly competitive salary (including benefits).

Required experience

- 15+ years of experience in assessing, implementing and managing energy projects
- Experience in renewable energy and/or off-grid generation projects (particularly solar) and developing countries (particularly Africa) will be regarded extremely favourably
- Bachelor's degree required, other advanced degrees will be regarded favorably.

Skills required

- Demonstrated technical skills; preferably in fast moving and complex environments
- Exceptional understanding of technical aspects of medium scale power projects and the spectrum of renewable energy technologies
- Excellent analytical ability and discipline; ability to think clearly, structure problems logically and then design and implement solutions that focus on the core issues
- Ability to build strong relationships with colleagues in stressful environments
- Ability to communicate clearly and effectively with diverse audiences
- Comfort with ambiguity; ability to operate effectively in a changing context

Primary responsibilities

- Project evaluation
 - Rigorously assess the technical viability of mid scale renewable energy projects with a particular emphasis on solar-diesel hybrid projects
 - Advise finance team on commercial implications of technical issues on midscale renewable projects
- Project supervision
 - Monitor commissioning of mid-scale renewable projects by technical partners
- Portfolio management
 - Monitor asset performance and ongoing O&M performance of technical partners

Location

The Technical Director will most likely be located in CrossBoundary's office in Nairobi. Frequent travel is expected.

For further information

Please submit your application to Admin@crossboundary.com