

DEPARTMENT: Project Development, Windlab Developments South Africa

JOB TITLE: Head of Development (Senior Manager)

REPORTS TO: Managing Director

Job Description:

Windlab is a global renewable energy developer with a large portfolio of wind (and hybrid wind/solar PV/battery) projects in Southern and East Africa. The opening is for a Head of Development in Windlab Developments South Africa (WDSA). Windlab's South African portfolio includes over 1GW of projects in various stages of development (including several bid-ready projects) and projects under development with JV partners in Mozambique. This is a senior position will be suited to a skilled professional with extensive experience of leading a project development team and demonstrated success in driving Financial Close and the delivery of renewable energy projects.

The Head of Development is an ambitious individual with a project management background that can lead a small and dynamic team, working independently and under their own initiative to solve problems and address challenges. In addition to excellent organization skills and a strong desire to deliver success, the Head of Development has intense attention to detail, a strong work ethic of delivery, discipline and ownership, and a desire to continuously build learning loops within the organization. Established networks in renewable energy and project finance, and good stakeholder engagement skills are important in this role.

Being a member of the Windlab team involves thinking on your feet and getting involved in a broad range of project development tasks. Although this role requires skills to manage others and coordinate multiple work streams, the Head of Development also takes an active role in delivering success by getting involved in the execution of project tasks. In particular, the Head of Development is expected to be intimately involved in driving and leading the workstreams involved in submitting REIPPPP bids and Financial Close, including offtake discussions, financial due diligence and assisting in commercial negotiations.

The Head of Development will report to the Managing Director and will be responsible for the project portfolio in South Africa, Mozambique and potentially other Southern African countries. The role will involve close collaboration with project developers/managers, Windlab's technical services division (the WindScape Institute), the finance team and external service providers.

Windlab values diversity and will give preference to a strong South African candidate from a previously disadvantaged background.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Working with the project development team to drive advanced-stage projects through bidding and Financial Close
- Overseeing the compliance and quality of multiple project bid submissions
- Leading Financial Close for multiple (simultaneous) projects in close collaboration with external service providers, Lenders, legal counsel and contractors
- Reporting to Windlab management and the Board on the status of the project portfolio
- Business planning including preparing project and corporate budgets and tracking performance of the business against key performance metrics
- Management of the project development team including line management, mentoring, hiring and training of staff
- Provision of project development/management services across the portfolio through the application of Windlab's project development process
- Developing and maintaining strong relationships with key project stakeholders

REQUIREMENTS

Essential

- Qualifications and experience
 - Minimum Bachelor-level degree in a relevant discipline, e.g. engineering, science, commerce, finance
 - 5-10 years professional experience in a project environment
 - Extensive experience in team management and leadership
 - Demonstrated success in managing REIPPPP bids and Financial Close for wind or solar projects
 - Detailed understanding of project finance, contract negotiation and asset delivery
- Skills
 - Demonstrated ability to deliver projects/tasks on time and within budget
 - Exceptional oral and written communication skills
 - High level of attention to detail
 - Fluency in English
 - Effective and positive in communication at all levels of peoples and cultures
 - History of strong analytical, problem solving, and negotiation skills
 - Excellent people management, organizational, planning, and prioritization skills
- Character
 - Willingness and availability to travel frequently as required (including remote areas)
 - Self-motivated with the ability to work individually as positive part of a skilled, and highly focused team, with a “can-do” attitude and willingness to take ownership of delivering project success
 - Demonstrated high standards of ethical conduct exhibiting honesty and integrity
 - Process and output driven, with attention to detail, complemented by ability to adapt to changing demands
 - Resourceful, well organized and effective at inspiring and influencing multiple resources to accomplish objectives
 - Works well under pressure
 - Attention to security, health and safety and risk management

Preferred

- Formal Project Management training
- Masters’ degree or other advanced professional education
- Fluency in Afrikaans, Portuguese or another African language
- South African national
- Previously disadvantaged candidate
- International renewable energy or infrastructure development experience

APPLICATION PROCESS

To apply for this position please email a short CV and cover letter highlighting your relevant skills and experience to africajobs@windlab.com.

The closing date for applications is close of business on 15th January 2018.

After screening all pre-qualified candidates will undergo telephonic/skype interviews and shortlisted candidates will undergo face-to-face interviews. Reference, qualification, and criminal record checks will be completed in detail before appointment.