

Job description

Principal biodiversity specialist

The purpose of the role is to guide leading renewable energy companies, finance institutions and governments in the integration of nature into decision-making and to grow our work across this sector – primarily in emerging markets (e.g., South America, Africa, Asia, and Eastern Europe). We are seeking a biodiversity specialist with strong project management and technical experience in the impacts of renewable energy. You will be playing a crucial part in shaping the future of biodiversity sustainability for the renewable energy sector, including working across a broader range of associated infrastructure, such as grid connections.

Responsibilities

Strategy and business development

- Building strategic partnerships within the renewable energy sector, to build co-ordinated positive actions for nature between developers, finance institutions, governments, and other stakeholders.
- Identifying potential new clients, and developing and maintaining existing and new client relationships, including using your network.

Project delivery

- Bid preparation: consisting of developing technical scopes of work and associated budgets, including identifying team members and external support (as necessary), liaising across TBC with technical consultants and the business support team, liaising with the client to understand and refine the scope of work, planning/scheduling tasks, and completing associated internal administrative processes.
- Project Management: consisting of technical design and critical review of complex renewable energy projects with respect to (but not limited to) biodiversity issues and considerations, liaising with and managing internal teams and external consultants (as relevant), monitoring technical progress and budget, acting as client point of contact, and generally ensuring timely delivery of on-budget projects to the requisite level of quality.
- Technical project-level and client portfolio-level work across biodiversity and ecosystem services management, including elements such as:
 - Carrying out biodiversity risk screening, Critical Habitat Assessments and interpretation.
 - Designing and supporting implementation of baseline surveys,
 - Advising on appropriate biodiversity metrics for both project-level and portfolio (corporate) level use.
 - Ecosystem services reviews.
 - Advising on key potential impacts on biodiversity associated with renewable energy projects and advising on/supporting impact assessment.
 - Reviewing and advising on implementation of the mitigation hierarchy, including Biodiversity Action plans, biodiversity offset design and feasibility studies.
 - Reviewing and advising on biodiversity monitoring approaches and actions to achieve net positive impact.

Innovation and communication

- Developing approaches, metrics, and tools for assessing biodiversity losses and gains of complex, large-scale projects in areas of sensitive biodiversity in emerging economies.
- Developing guidance, tools, and frameworks, generally in collaboration with leading industry, NGO, and/or financial sector partners, for best practice approaches for biodiversity and renewable energy sector.
- Attending industry-focussed events and webinars on behalf of The Biodiversity Consultancy, including writing and delivering presentations
- Writing and reviewing material for scientific and business press, our website and publications

Essential attributes

- A good Honours and Master's degree or other postgraduate qualification in relevant disciplines.
- At least 5 years' relevant experience. on site-based assessments, studies and plans.
- Background in biodiversity, ecosystem services, natural resource, and livelihood issues, especially in emerging economies.
- Experience of designing, coordinating and implementing biodiversity surveys and monitoring using science-based and quantitative methods.
- Solid technical data analysis and interpretation skills.
- Experience in applying lender standards, especially International Finance Corporation Performance Standard 6, production of Biodiversity Action Plans, biodiversity offsets and monitoring plans.
- Experience of managing and delivering multiple complex projects, as well as project sponsorship/oversight
- Excellent presentation and writing skills, with experience in presenting complex concepts to a wide stakeholders' audience.
- Passionate about creating positive environmental change.
- Willingness and enthusiasm to travel globally and work in challenging environments.

Desirable attributes

- Consultancy experience.
- Familiarity with GIS software and approaches, including the ability to design and evaluate, and potentially conduct, spatial analyses in collaboration with our GIS team.
- Specialism in herpetofauna.
- Experience of overseeing and training junior staff.
- Experience of undertaking biodiversity due diligence across the finance and insurance sectors.
- Experience of project management, business development and client relationship management.
- Ability to work in French

Role details

- Permanent, full time.
- £Competitive salary.
- Principal Consultant grade – Flexible. TBC operates in an evolving, fast-moving and specialist area of biodiversity and renewable energy and we appreciate the varied backgrounds of our consultancy team. Please get in touch if you are interested in this role and are unsure whether your experience fits this role description.

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- Benefits including non-contractual bonus, 25 days' holiday, work pension scheme, life insurance and flexible working opportunities.

To apply, please send a covering letter, two recent examples of your written work and CV by email to: recruitment@thebiodiversityconsultancy.com

Application deadline is 10 January 2024, early applications are encouraged, and we reserve the right to appoint earlier should the right candidate be found.

About us

The Biodiversity Consultancy works with business and finance to integrate nature into sustainability strategy and practice. Since 2006 we have guided clients across sectors and around the world to respond to biodiversity- and nature-related risk and create new ways of working which deliver business value and safeguard our natural environment.

Our team are purpose-driven biodiversity and sustainability experts, trusted by household names, financial institutions, governments, and leading NGOs to deliver strategic guidance and deep technical expertise. From single sites to global systems, we equip our clients with the knowledge, capacity, and tools to create meaningful change and achieve their nature-related goals.

We place a high value on the experience and expertise of our staff and strive to create the conditions for individuals to grow and flourish in a stimulating, collaborative and flexible culture. Personal development is important to us and as such we offer a comprehensive, tailored induction and ongoing in-house and external training opportunities.

At heart we are committed conservationists, who believe we can make more of an impact by working with business. We invest in the environmental leaders of the future through our internship programme and donate 12.5% of our profits to environmental causes chosen by staff. More can be found about our work and our team at www.thebiodiversityconsultancy.com