

Environmental & Social Specialist

Full-time position
Dubai, UAE

About the Opportunity:

The E&S Specialist will coordinate and manage local E&S consultants located in Sub-Saharan African and Central Asian countries and international reputable E&S consultants, ensuring cost and time efficient development of E&S deliverables according to IFC performance standards. Upon financial and technical close of the projects, they will also support the due diligence process with lenders to achieve project financial closing.

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Duties & responsibilities:

- Hold primary responsibility for implementation and monitoring of the Environmental and Social Management System of Phanes Group and assist the Project Development team with various project interventions in relation to this;
- Manage the review, development and implementation of project plans such as;
 - EIA/ESIA (Environmental and Social Impact Assessment);
 - ESAP (Environmental and Social Action Plan);
 - SEP (Stakeholder's Engagement Plan);
 - Grievance mechanisms;
 - LRP (Livelihood Restoration Plan);
 - RAP (Resettlement Action Plan);
 - ESMP (Environmental and Social Management Plan)
- Travel extensively (based on requirements) to Sub Saharan Africa and Central Asian countries, performing E&S activities and lead community engagement meetings;
- Support the Project Manager to create and supervise the development timeline and budget for the project;
- Evaluate and manage E&S regulatory requirements and compliance (including liaising with third party consultants and contractors) within E&S national and international requirements alongside the Legal, Regulatory and Compliance department;
- Assist with the preparation of project documents including, but not limited to, Project Investment Memorandums and various reports to project stakeholders etc.;
- Communicate with lenders, their advisors, regulatory authorities and other project stakeholders, providing recommendations and dealing with any queries or concerns that may arise from due diligences;
- Contribute to corporate knowledge base by analysing and disseminating information, best practice and any lessons learnt on E&S sustainability;
- Maintain accurate records as minutes of meetings and community engagement records and survey reports.

Qualifications & experience:

- Graduate degree in relevant discipline (environmental, social sciences, environmental engineering, sustainable development, or other relevant discipline);
- Experience with community engagement, civil society, grievance mechanisms, or mediation/negotiation skills is a plus;
- Minimum 10 years' experience in the E&S consulting industry (as lender's/client's E&S advisor or within a consulting company) for energy generation projects, preferably solar PV or other renewable energy;
- Familiar with Equator Principles, IFC Performance Standards, IFC HSE General Guidelines, AfDB ISS etc;
- International experience required within developing countries related to renewable energy projects preferred;
- Professional English level is mandatory. French/Russian language is an advantage;
- Strong proficiency in Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint.

Personal skills:

- Ability to prioritize and multitask within a fast-paced environment;
- Capable of working as part of an international team, including multiple stakeholders;
- Outstanding problem-solving abilities;
- High personal integrity and emotional intelligence, with demonstrated ability to handle sensitive matters in a discreet and respectful manner;
- Diplomatic approach and calm under pressure.

Phanes Group is an international solar energy developer, investment and asset manager, strategically headquartered in Dubai with a local footprint in sub-Saharan Africa, through its office in Nigeria, the region's largest economy. Cumulatively, the company's global clean power contribution is in excess of 70 MW, with a further 1.5 GW in the pipeline – including 227.5 MW of grid connected PV solar in Nigeria across three different projects. The first of the three Nigerian projects, in the Sokoto region, is backed by one of the Nigerian government's 14 PPAs. In addition, the group is developing off-grid solar solutions to ensure communities across the region have access to a stable and clean energy supply.