TERMS OF REFERENCE

Position Title: Technical Lead

Name of Project/Programme: IKI LAC and Gestión CC Phase 2 (“Gestión 2”)

Practice Area or Hub: Climate and Development Implementation

Location: SSN, Cape Town, South Africa

Duration: Fixed-term contract with a commitment to 31 January 2023

Start date: As soon as possible

Remuneration: R95 000 – R120 000 per month (Dependent on relevant experience)

Level: Senior and strategic position

About SouthSouthNorth

SouthSouthNorth (SSN) supports national and regional responses to climate change through policy and knowledge interventions, partnerships and deep collaboration. We do this by connecting people and information, enhancing capability and mobilising resources to respond innovatively to the challenges and opportunities that climate change presents. Being positioned in the Global South affords SSN a deeper understanding of, and connection to, the climate and development challenges facing the region. We enhance developing countries’ access to climate information by brokering climate knowledge through formalised exchanges among various stakeholders. We assist decision makers in delivering climate compatible development by informing policy formulation and implementation. We bring good governance to management of donor funds, technical assistance and project management.

Full details of the projects that SSN currently implements are available at www.southsouthnorth.org.

About the Projects

IKI-LAC aims to provide the evidentiary basis for policy reform, and to create the enabling conditions that result in the rapid decarbonisation of the economies of three Latin American countries, Peru, Argentina and Brazil, by making finance flows consistent with low-carbon development pathways and avoiding carbon lock-in. To that effect, the project will interact with a range of public and private sector target groups through multi-stakeholder dialogues with the aim to facilitate increased mitigation ambition, the provision of inputs for the design of effective financial instruments, and the development of sectoral investment portfolios to advance NDC implementation in the target countries. The multi-stakeholders target groups will benefit from the establishment of regional, national and local communities of practice exchanging experience, knowledge and climate investment opportunities, and fostering peer-to-peer learning. Moreover, the project aims to significantly contribute to the development of the next generations of NDCs and the global stocktake process as part of the Paris Agreement ambition mechanism.
The IKI-LAC Team and project delivery

SouthSouthNorth is the institutional home that will hold together the project and is ultimately responsible for its successful implementation. It will be driven by a small team that will be responsible for strategic and executive decision-making, process advice to country teams and a coherent methodological framework to tackle coordination across countries. The SouthSouthNorth team will also be in charge of the tasks of project management, accountability & reporting, contracts and logistics. The team will comprise an SSN Director, Technical Lead and Project Manager; as well as Officers for procurement, monitoring and evaluation and knowledge management.

Gestión 2 is funded by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), to support improved capacity for the implementation of Peru’s National Determined Contributions (NDCs). Specifically, this will be achieved through improved institutional arrangements, capacity development, adequate access to finance and information, and stakeholder empowerment. The South African local office working with Peruvian and international consultants will facilitate NDC implementation through the creation of enabling conditions and participatory processes, including capacity building and enhanced tools and coordination.

The Gestión 2 Team and project delivery

The project falls under the overall leadership of the Peruvian Ministry of Environment (MINAM), specifically the Climate Change and Desertification Directorate. Gestión 2 is implemented by SSN in partnership with Libélula (Peru) and with technical support from sub-contractors. The SSN role requires technical, knowledge management and international outreach and operational skills, coupled with strategic leadership ability.

About the Role

A Spanish speaker with Latin American experience is preferable in this role.

The Technical Lead (TL) will be SSN’s in-house lead on implementation and delivery and will play both a ‘head and hands’ role. For delivery of administrative and coordination functions the Technical Lead will have the support of a full time Project Manager. The TL will work with the Project Management Teams (including staff from the SSN operations, contracts and finance teams) and Consultants, to lead on providing strategic and executive decision making and to be innovative in a hands-on way to ensure that these projects deliver on the expected outcomes.

The TL is expected to fulfil a complex coordination role between the delivery partners, the donor and SSN; share and disseminate information among programme partners with a strong focus on the ability (and willingness) to write and engage in the Knowledge Management and international outreach processes and specifically provide guidance on finance approaches and strategies to facilitate the financing of the partner countries NDCs ambition.

The successful applicant will undertake at least two trips per annum to South America and international climate events such as the UNFCCC climate summit - playing a networking and relationship management role.
Responsibilities under the projects are likely to consume the TL’s time according to the following split - GestionCC 20%:80% IKI LAC.

Roles and Responsibilities

The Technical Lead will

- Work with technical sector advisers, in-country partners and professional networks, ensure projects are implemented to a high quality, meet IKI/SDC and international standards, are appropriate to the context, needs based, and contribute to NDC implementation and financing in Peru, Argentina and Brazil.
- Hold a senior position within SSN and therefore be expected to provide strategic guidance and insight beyond the scope of IKI-LAC and GestionCC
- Use his/her international network to promote relevant action around NDC implementation
- Link the projects to NDC platforms internationally, manage and engage in the design and delivery of specific KM/ IO products such as discussion platforms, workshops, labs, strategic events and others to forge alliances and knowledge exchange opportunities
- Organise exchanges between the partner country governments and select developing countries in the south with bi-lateral donor governments and multilateral finance institutions such as GCF, GEF and CAF.
- Facilitate discussions between investors and government, and a range of other relevant stakeholders involved in green investment.

Competence and personal qualities of the Technical Lead

Essential

- Minimum 10 years of relevant experience with evidence of strong mediation and problem solving skills
- Experience in understanding and tackling complex sector dynamics, preferably with a finance lense
- An understanding of financial instruments and the risk reward profile of low-carbon and resilience investment opportunities.
- Microsoft Office proficiency
- Excellent interpersonal skills – able to establish and maintain positive working relationships, both internally and externally, with people from a wide variety of cultures and backgrounds
- Willingness and ability to lead on Knowledge Management and brokering on a local and international stage
- Excellent presentation skills, with evidence of the ability to distill disparate and complex information into a user story
● An interest in and willingness to engage in SSN’s suite of projects both domestically and internationally.
● Available for regular travel to South America and internationally
● Willingness to engage in occasional after hours teleconferences to accommodate time zone differences. SSN is an accommodating work environment and would encourage flexi-hours to assist in managing the time differences

Additional/Desirable

● Verbal, comprehension and written skills in both Spanish and English
● Experience and networks within relevant government ministries and private stakeholders
● Residing in South Africa and in possession of a valid work-permit. If you are not eligible to work in South Africa SSN may assist in sponsorship for a scarce skills visa if you can demonstrate your eligibility
● Be based in Cape Town, South Africa or willing to relocate at own cost
● Experience in working and engaging with Latin American stakeholders, especially government
● Verbal, comprehension and writing skills in Portuguese, as spoken in Brazil
● Professional experience in climate change, environment and/or international development, with a specific focus on climate mitigation in Latin America
● A degree in accounting, finance, or a related field and experience working in the financial sector
● Proven track record in the delivery of investment flows into green projects across a variety of sectors.
● An interest in the global and regional climate and development landscape and the key actors involved
● Experience in facilitating the use of research into action for climate, or an allied field.

Qualifications

Minimum Bachelors Degree and preferably a Masters in a relevant discipline including finance, law, development finance

Application process

To apply, please complete the Google Form, upload your C.V. and Cover Letter via the following link: Technical Lead Application Form

SSN is looking to recruit the Technical Lead as soon as possible, with a preference for a strong candidate who can start work in the first quarter of 2020. Applications will be accepted and assessed on a rolling basis and recruitment will continue until a suitable candidate has been identified. Unfortunately we are not able to offer feedback on any application made for this job posting. SouthSouthNorth reserves the right not to make an appointment.