**JOB DESCRIPTION**

***Project Director / Cross Border Electricity Trading / Based in Bangladesh***

***Countries covered by the regional project: Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Sri-Lanka***

Expertise France (EF) is looking for a Project Director, based in Dacca, Bangladesh (expatriate position depending on the selected candidate nationality), who will play a pivotal role in leading and ensuring that the CBET (Cross Border Electricity Trading) project implementation is in line with the strategic and operational orientations. The CBET is a EU funded regional project covering 5 countries (Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Sri-Lanka).

Mission description

The Project Director will be a professional with international experience, he/she will be full time based in Dacca, Bangladesh and in charge of coordinating the activities in liaison with the various concerned stakeholders.

The Project Director will have a permanent managerial role vis-à-vis:

* The project team based in Dacca, composed of an Administration and Finance Manager (full-time) and an Administration and Finance Project Assistant (full-time);
* The long term experts :
  + an Operational Energy expert based in Bangladesh, responsible for providing technical energy-sector expertise and local support for the implementation of project activities in Bangladesh;
  + Country Correspondents based in India and Nepal, responsible for supporting project coordination, stakeholder engagement, and activity facilitation at the national level in India and Nepal.
* The short-term experts as regards their organization of work, the number of days allocated and the contractual aspects as well as the logistical issues of their missions (transport, space, offices, equipment, etc…), the planning of activities and the compliance with the work plan.

The Project Director will be responsible for the successful achievement of the project's results. She/He will be assisted in Expertise France headquarters’ by a Project Manager, a project assistant and by the support departments.

More precisely, the Project Director will have to implement the following tasks:

***Strategic advice and project representation***

* Proposal, adjustment and implementation of the strategic and technical orientations of the project, in particular on the basis of the proposals made by the project technical experts;
* Project representation: networking with relevant actors in Bangladesh and the other countries covered by the program; developing and maintaining excellent working relationship with local administrations and international donors; representation of the project at high level events related to the project themes.

***Management of the team and experts***

* Identification and selection of experts;
* Supervision of the project team and team of experts: validation of work plans by thematic area of the project, consolidation of the overall action plan, coordination of the execution of the project’s activities. This management must be done while maintaining a very high level of communication within the team and continuous evaluation of activities, with a goal to continuously improving the project management;
* Ensuring, with the support of EF safety department, that all activities and team members are complying with EF safety and security procedures.

***Project management***

* Operational coordination of the project: overall supervision and coordination of the inception phase; overall supervision and coordination of the project activities and the achievement of their objectives;
* Ensure that all activities of the project are carefully planned, implemented and monitored, including on the administrative, financial and logistical side, in accordance with EU rules and procedures, to achieve maximum results in terms of quality, time and cost-effectiveness;
* Supervises the timely production of expected deliverables, both with regard to activities (mission reports) and the project as a whole (inception report, annual report, final report, etc.);
* Be responsible for the monitoring, evaluation, accountability & learning and management of all knowledge outputs.

Any other task related to the mission, at the request of Expertise France or the donor.

Project or context description

The project aims to address the electricity connectivity gap in South Asia, which is currently the least integrated region in Asia.

Countries in the region are increasingly aware of the importance to engage in climate change mitigation action and transition to renewable energy including from an energy security and competitiveness perspective. Improving cross-border electricity trade (CBET) is crucial to unlock the region's full renewable energy potential and promote a fair and inclusive green energy transition. However, there are barriers to electricity market integration, including diverging national political priorities, lack of political dialogue at regional level, technical and regulatory barriers, and limited existing transmission infrastructure.

To overcome these challenges, and more specifically address the lack of regional dialogue, the project intends to facilitate a shift from bilateral to multilateral regional cooperation approach. It aims to strengthen institutional political governance frameworks, build technical capacity, and establish a platform for intra-regional energy dialogue.

* Overall objective: Increasing Cross Border Electricity Trade (CBET) to facilitate climate change mitigation efforts via the integration of renewable energy, reduction of GHG emissions, improvement of energy security, and ultimately support to economic growth and cooperation in South Asia;
* Specific objective: An improved policy framework and investment conditions for CBET and integration of renewable energy in South Asia.

The action will therefore, through a combination of policy dialogue and technical/capacity support, aim to achieve the following expected outputs:

1.1 Improved regional and national policy/regulatory framework and investment climate for intra-regional CBET that facilitates the integration of electricity generation from renewable energy sources;

1.2 Strengthened capacities of country level sector stakeholders (public officials, public utilities, grid operators, private sector) for the creation of an integrated regional electricity market (country level preparedness);

1.3 Increased stakeholder awareness and engagement (institutions, private Sector/investors/think tank/CSOs) on the benefits of increased regional electricity trade and renewable energy integration.

The above outputs will make sure that the activities will be gender-responsive and will as much as possible include organizations of women and persons with disabilities.

Required profile

The main characteristics of the Project Director will be threefold:

1. Excellent knowledge of the energy and power sector, and more particularly in South Asia sub-region ;
2. Experience with EU-funded projects, good knowledge of the EU energy policies;
3. Strong experience in multi-stakeholder consultation and high-level institutional dialogue and diplomacy as well as team coordination.

Moreover, Expertise France will evaluate candidates according to the following criteria:

Education / qualification:

* Master’s degree (or equivalent) in law, political science, international relations, engineering, energy related fields or any other relevant discipline ;
* Excellent communication and reporting skills ;
* Strong ability to evolve in a political and sensitive environment ;
* Fluent in spoken and written English and Bengali is required (other sub region languages would be an asset, French is a plus).

Professional experience:

* A minimum of 10 years of professional experience in multi-country programme management ;
* Demonstrated management skills in a multicultural environment and experience in a leadership role ;
* Experience of international cooperation and international projects implementation ;
* Experience with EU-funded projects ;
* Experience working in Bangladesh or the South Asia sub-region region is required.

Additional information

Condition of the mission:

* The signature of the contract between Expertise France and the Project director will depend on the signature of the contract between Expertise France and its donor.
* Duration of the contract: 12 months, full time (renewable up to 46 months)
* Beginning of the mission : January 2026
* Contract: expatriate employment contract with Expertise France (to be confirmed depending on the selected candidate nationality)
* Budget : Based on Expertise France’s salary grid
* Working conditions: The expert will be based in Dacca, Bangladesh, for the duration of the project with travel in South Asia sub-region and occasional missions to Europe.