



Program: Energy

Project: Solar Power Hub Mendekelema Phase 1

Job Title: Solar Technician (1)

Job Location: Kenema

Reporting to: Project Manager

Associates: Project Managers, Field Officers, Finance Officers

Description

BACKGROUND

SEND is a non-governmental organisation dedicated to creating a Sierra Leone where there is respect for human rights, accountable governance, food and nutrition security, and equal opportunities for men and women to thrive. We liaise with communities, traditional authorities, government institutions and foreign partners to combine resources that will develop innovative solutions to alleviate poverty and enhance quality self-reliance.

SEND Sierra Leone has adopted the global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to guide national development planning and implementation. The pursuit of economic equality and social equity are mainstreamed in the SDGs. Our commitment to the government is to improve the delivery of social services, strengthen gender and social inclusion, and prioritise the education sector.

SEND workers must adhere to the values, principles and procedures outlined in the HR Policy and the Financial Operating Manual of SEND for Professional Conduct. These are Integrity, Service, and Accountability. By these values, SEND enforces policies on Beneficiary Protection from Exploitation and Abuse, Child Safeguarding, Anti Workplace Harassment, Code of Conduct and Complaint & Response.

Mechanism (CRM). SEND workers should always ensure that all project activities are Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) sensitive in the office and out in the field, focusing on supporting Gender Equality & Social Accountability through a strengthened civil society in 14 wards in Western Area Rural, Kambia and Bombali districts.

PROJECT BACKGROUND

A solar power hub based on a consumer cooperative organisational structure will be established in Mendekelema to produce energy. The solar power hub will deliver energy to households and micro and small enterprises. This will happen through renting out solar gadgets to households, which will be recharged at a cost at the solar power hub when required. Likewise, at the solar power hub, micro-enterprises can rent rechargeable batteries or rechargeable equipment, which they can use in their business activities. Directly adjacent to the solar power hub, it will also be possible for investors to establish their enterprises and obtain solar power for their business activity. By using rechargeable gadgets, people from nearby catchment areas to

Mendekelema will also benefit from solar energy generated by the hub. The three catchment areas chosen are Senehun Buena, Senehun Sefula and Mahoma.

Main objective.

The development objective is to improve the livelihood for people in Mendekelema and catchment areas through the provision of community solar power

Solar Technician

The Solar Technician will be responsible for the assembles and installing solar panels on roofs and other structures. Configures PV systems based on site conditions and customers' needs and expectations; connect panels to the power grid. Follows building standards and codes when installing panels and support structures. Inspects electrical installation and wiring.

SEND offers a competitive salary package and benefits for the candidate with the required experience and passion for the role. Female candidates are strongly encouraged to apply.

Mainstreaming gender, Safeguarding Programme Participants-Children & Adults: SEND workers must adhere to the values, principles and procedures outlined in the HR Policy and the Financial Operating Manual of SEND for Professional Conduct. These are Integrity, Service, and Accountability. By these values, SEND enforces policies on Beneficiary Protection from Exploitation and Abuse, Child Safeguarding, Anti Workplace Harassment, Code of Conduct and Complaint & Response Mechanism (CRM). SEND workers should always ensure that all project activities are Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) sensitive in the office and out in the field.

Key Duties & Responsibilities

Job roles and responsibilities

- Sensitize and train household members in the economical use of electricity leading to better prioritization of household income.
- Sensitizing and providing training of community members in the proper use of gadgets to prolong their lifetime.
- Promote the use of gadgets for evening work and children's learning.
- Make contact with mini-grid and other electricity suppliers to obtain their experience using productive energy after installing systems.
- Identify potential investments in solar-powered equipment relevant to value-added agricultural production and ways of using energy outside agriculture.
- Linkage building potential from small-scale community businesses to financial institutions (credit unions, Micro Finance Institutions) and other organisations (e.g., Gola Rainforest National Park) for obtaining investment finance.
- Provide solar power equipment at the hub to be rented by small businesses (e.g., cooling, copying).
- Training of cooperative local technicians and bookkeepers.
- Train SEND staff in maintenance planning and technical monitoring of community solar systems.

- Enhance the competencies of SEND staff related to renewable energy as identified and required during implementation.
- Undertake quarterly inspections and continuously perform remote monitoring of solar systems.
- Perform varying corrective, preventive, and emergency maintenance for solar PV systems.
- Interact with customers on a professional level as part of a multi-tasking team.
- Perform onsite installations, repairs, and troubleshooting.
- Check and provide complete documentation to clients.
- Carry out site root analysis.
- Apply root cause analysis techniques on all significant and recurring faults.
- Investigate technical failures and prepare formal technical reports
- Record keeping and management of spare part movements.

Person Specification – Essential Requirements

Qualification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diploma/graduate university degree in Engineering or a related field of study. • Ability to work on rooftops and heights • Ability to lift and move objects up to 35 kg • Have an electrical contractor license.
Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least 5 years of demonstrable experience in the field of a solar technician • Sound experience in budgetary and financial management. • Experience in organizing and facilitating meetings, workshops and training activities • Experience developing training modules, tools, and/or other related resources
Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge of electrical systems. • Good maths skills. • Design skills and understanding. • Analytical thinking skills. • Ability to work well with others. • Great Communication Skills to effectively interact with client • Comfortable working outdoors, often high off the ground, on slanted surfaces and in other variable site conditions • Detailed-oriented • Enjoy working with complex electrical and mechanical equipment • Know how to use a variety of hand and power tools • Physically fit and able to carry panels and other heavy equipment • Proficient in Krio and the Mende languages
Qualities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flexibility and ability to multi-task under pressure • Ability to work independently with minimal supervision. • A Willingness to Solve Uncommon Issues • Ability to remain calm in stressful situations.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A strong commitment and empathy with the ethos and work of SEND
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ability and willingness to travel within project locations.• Commitment to principles of safeguarding programme participants• Commitment to gender equality principles• Financial integrity and stewardship of project funds

Mode of Application:

All applications must be forwarded to recruitment@sendsierraleone.com.

Kindly note that ONLY shortlisted candidates will be contacted for an Interview.

Closing date: 20th May 2023