



Project Developer

Introduction to SOLA

The SOLA Group is a vertically-integrated provider of renewable energy solutions, aiming to transform Africa through clean energy. With over 13 years of experience, SOLA's expertise lies in the origination, development, financing, engineering design, project management and Operations and Maintenance of renewable energy facilities. For more information, visit www.solagroup.co.za.

The overall purpose of the position:

Project Developer is a multidisciplinary role in a dynamic team focusing on building, maintaining and expanding SOLA's project pipeline. The primary goal of this role is to keep feeding SOLA's pipeline with early stage development opportunities and taking these through the development cycle to financial close and the project implementation phase.

Reports to: Senior Project Developer

Location: Cape Town

Summary of Responsibilities:

Technical

- Active lead in project development to advance multiple projects at a time through the various development stages from early stage to advanced 'bid ready' status, including:
 - Environmental and technical sensitivity screening of project sites
 - Undertaking all land, permitting, technical, and grid assessment processes
 - Coordinating and managing internal and external resources to achieve project success
 - Managing key work streams in project bidding assisting Business Development, such as reviewing RFPs, composing and compiling bid documentation
 - Leading the permitting and land workstreams during financial close
 - Engaging with stakeholders including land owners, project partners, government officials, clients etc.
 - Create and consistently improve development processes in an ever changing environment
- Lead specific processes to assist SOLA's project portfolio expansion via origination of greenfield project opportunities and undertaking due diligence of brownfield project opportunities.
- Active participation in industry forums and research to maintain detailed market intelligence and scenario analysis, to inform development and portfolio strategy, as well as target sites/acquisitions.
- Rapid expansion of skills and experience is to be gained in the financial close process of projects.

Administrative/Operational

- Contribute to improving SOLA internal processes and development approaches, based on prior knowledge and experience.
- Report on project progress, risks and challenges on a bi-monthly basis.
- Extensive site travels throughout South Africa (possibly Southern Africa in due time).

Interpersonal

- Engage with the various SOLA Teams, from Engineering, Project Finance, Asset Management to Procurement.
- Engagement with other project developers and partners to enter into acquisition and/or partnership agreements. This may involve commercial negotiations and managing partnership relationships.
- External stakeholder management; specifically for consultants and advisors.

Key Performance Indicators

- Number of new sites identifies and secured per year (MW)
- Number of new sites advanced to 'bid ready' status/advanced development stage per year (MW)
- Key metrics for financial close process met on time (e.g. outstanding permits delivered on time)
- Number of new awards secured per year, via supporting the business development team (MW awarded)

Minimum Requirements:

Qualifications and Experience:

- BSc degree in a relevant discipline (Renewable Energy, Engineering or Environmental).
- Three to five years experience in large scale electricity project development and management, for a developer/IPP or consultant/advisor working in the renewable energy sector.
- Experience in previous REIPPP projects and bidding, advantageous.
- Experience of South African regulations pertaining to environment and permitting, electricity generation and project development.
- Previous experience in identifying, securing and developing greenfield projects and/or project acquisitions.

Technical Competencies:

- Experience working with all relevant computer programs (MS Office Suite, MS Project, G-Suite, etc).
- Ability to create and monitor detailed project schedules and budgets.
- Comfortable in reviewing legal documents such as leases, licenses and other contracts.
- Understanding in GIS and Mapping software.

Behavioral Competencies:

- Flexibility to work within tight deadlines while managing a large and complex scope of work.
- Ability to work independently and as part of a small and dynamic team.
- Growth mindset and strong desire to advance professional competencies.
- Problem solving and positive approach to dealing with challenges.
- Excellent communicator, both verbal and written communication, with English being the main language (additional South African languages advantageous).
- Willingness and availability to travel.
- Appreciation of a "work hard, play hard" philosophy and SOLA's other corporate values.
- The ideal candidate will be passionate about the renewable energy industry and the company's contribution to the future of energy. He/she will embody respect and responsibility in the full sense of the word, and will enjoy contributing to a team of highly knowledgeable professionals.

At SOLA one of our core values is *Dig Diversity* and we are committed to transformation and embracing diversity. This commitment is what drives us to achieve a diverse and inclusive workplace, representative of the demographics of our society. We therefore give preference to applicants from the designated groups in alignment with our Employment Equity plan.

To apply for this vacancy, please complete this [screening questionnaire](#) and send a copy of your CV to hireme@solagroup.co.za.