



About Project Gaia

Project Gaia is a nonprofit organization based in Gettysburg, PA, USA that promotes clean-burning, safe, and efficient cookstoves powered by alcohol fuels. By providing access to sustainable fuels, we hope to change the face of energy poverty. Project Gaia has projects located in Ethiopia, Nigeria, Zanzibar, Mozambique, Madagascar, Kenya, Haiti and Guatemala.

Description of Project

Approximately 80 percent of the East Africa Community's (EAC) population depends on fuelwood and other forms of biomass (charcoal, agri-residues) for cooking. This demand creates stress on woody biomass resources in the region and has contributed to a high rate of deforestation. A way to improve the energy supply is to develop and enable access to liquid biofuels that can be produced from excess plant materials and organic wastes. Ethanol represents a significant opportunity for this. It can be produced locally on a small scale and could create a new market for agricultural communities. It can be used in rural communities or transported to urban markets. Ethanol is an ideal cooking fuel as it burns easily, cleanly and efficiently, and has been shown to provide a desirable and practical alternative to firewood and charcoal.

The United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) has commissioned Project Gaia to create a baseline report on the status of cooking fuels and the potential for producing ethanol from wasted or underutilized feedstocks in the EAC region. Project Gaia is seeking local consultants from four of the five EAC countries, namely Rwanda, Burundi, Uganda, and Tanzania, to provide a desk review of feedstocks and some primary or field research where necessary.

Qualifications

Applicants must have a relevant university degree and previous experience working with clean cookstoves, ethanol, resource management and/or agriculture. Applicants should have experience conducting research and writing professional reports. Applicants must be highly proficient or fluent in English.

Key Roles and Responsibilities

- Research current household energy markets in respective country, including fuels most commonly used, stoves most commonly used, cost of stoves and fuel, daily and weekly stove and fuel costs, cost for urban and rural areas;
- Research current initiatives in-country regarding improved and clean cooking; review government initiatives on cookstoves and cooking fuels;
- Provide information on current and projected ethanol production in country, including feedstocks, production capacity, location of distilleries, information about the distilleries, and quantity and quality of ethanol produced;
- Review status of the national biofuels policy—both for bioethanol and biodiesel, as well as for solid biofuels, such as wood chips and pellets;
- Examine government regulations for ethanol, including existing regulations and taxes for fuel ethanol for blending or for cookstoves, and beverage ethanol;
- Examine policies, regulations and tariffs and fees for ethanol that is imported or exported;
- Research available feedstocks (list of feedstocks will be provided by Project Gaia), including location, cost, availability, seasonality, current uses, harvest and handling considerations, etc.;
- Take high quality photos of stoves, fuel, feedstocks, and ethanol production facilities;
- Provide Project Gaia with a detailed report by the specified due date based upon the subject matter listed above.

Payment Terms

Consultants will be paid 1,500 USD upon successful completion and submission of all deliverables. Final drafts of reports are due by August 15, 2015.

To Apply

Please send Ms. Hilary Landfried, hlandfried@projectgaia.com, a brief cover letter detailing previous experience and qualification and a CV. One consultant will be hired from each of the EAC countries listed: Rwanda, Burundi, Uganda, and Tanzania.

Deadline

Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis. We are looking to hire consultants ASAP. Please submit applications as soon as possible for full consideration.

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Project Gaia is an equal opportunity employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, gender, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, national origin, genetics, disability, age, or veteran status.