

Job Description

Title **Deputy Chief Of Party**

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Location **Delhi**

Position Summary:

PA Government Services is the implementing partner for USAID's Water and Energy Nexus Activity (WENEXA) This Project is a multi-year initiative for addressing water and energy issues in the agricultural, municipal and industrial sectors. The Project is currently scheduled to operate through September 2008 with the possibility of an extension. This Position, located in PA's New Delhi Office, is for a Deputy Chief of Party reporting to the Chief of Party.

The position is under the direction of and in partnership with the WENEXA Chief of Party (COP), the Deputy Chief of Party (DCOP) will participate in overall project management and execution. This position will be attractive to a mid-career professional for candidates with experience at a level that would enable him or her to capably interact with officials in the Central and State Governments. The Deputy Chief of Party will work closely with the Chief of Party in designing Workplans and implementation approaches to meet contract requirements. This will require the application of fine-tuned skills and abilities in the area of project management and technical approaches for management of water and energy management issues, particularly those in rural settings.

This position also includes USAID's Water and Energy Nexus (WENEXA) activity recognizes the dual impact of uncontrolled groundwater extraction on both energy and water sectors. WENEXA's objective is to establish models for reducing adverse impacts of power pricing and distribution on how agricultural,

municipal and industrial consumers use water. In agriculture, WENEXA is focused on how best to address adverse impacts on ground water. The interconnection between water and energy management in India in general, and in agricultural, municipal and industrial sectors in particular, calls for a strategic approach that works at multiple levels of decision-making authority and employs a broad range of methods to address policy, institutional and technical issues.

The DCOP will handle day-to-day management of a diverse team of NGOs, academics and consultants. Knowledge of water and energy issues, soil and water conservation, agriculture and rural development are key. The DCOP must have high energy levels and the command presence to deal with senior ministers and the self-assurance to interact with people at all levels.

Short duration travel will be required, mostly within India, with occasional international trips.

Key Challenges:

- Project Management.
- Strategic Work Planning and Project Execution.
- To Serve as Primary Technical Reviewer for Subcontract Deliverables
- Technical Assignment Manager

Other Duties: Deputy Chief of Party role is vital to overall project success and s/he must be willing to serve in a variety of capacities based on the needs of the project and maintain flexibility to step forward to meet project needs as they arise.

Knowledge & Skills Required:

The individual must have the ability to balance competing project demands while delivering outputs according to tight deadlines. S/he will also support integration of Project tasks and activities during the course of their development to ensure appropriate inter-linkages and facilitate positive team interaction during the course of project execution. This requires that the DCOP have the ability to work as a self-starter and capable of working independently with minimal supervision while adhering

to overarching direction and guidance. The incumbent must exercise professional judgment and discrimination and the capacity for ensuring that the Chief of Party is apprised of all important issues and developments as they evolve.

The DCOP will be expected to prepare written and oral reports that convey results of technical findings and/or synthesize and integrate technical findings from a number of sources. The DCOP will be required to present project results and outcomes to a broad range of technical and non-technical audiences. Reports and presentations must be well prepared in written and spoken English. Therefore, this position requires a candidate with exceptionally strong skills in written and oral communication.

- Demonstrated understanding and experience with management of Indian rural development programs related to groundwater and energy management.
- Strong English written & oral communication skills.
- Proven ability to work as part of as well as manage interdisciplinary professional teams.
- Proven ability to work effectively with senior level government officials.
- Proven ability to work effectively in meeting program/project goals, demonstrating initiative with minimum supervision.

Academic Qualification:

- This position will be attractive to a broad range of candidates, including those with a Masters Degree in agricultural engineering, groundwater hydrogeology, water and rural management or a related field or a Masters Degree in Economics or an undergraduate degree in Engineering plus an MBA

Experience :

- Minimum of ten years of project management experience on development projects related to natural resources management including water and energy, ground water management, agricultural management and energy, rural livelihoods and participatory management approaches to natural resources management. At least four years of prior USAID project management in these areas is highly desirable, preferably at the Deputy Team Leader level or above.

Key Responsibilities :

The Deputy Chief of Party will be assigned to specific technical tasks as required by the Project. This may include development of specific project deliverables, technical presentations to stakeholder groups, or management of specific tasks and/or sub-tasks. This will require that the DCOP have strong technical capabilities in the area of water and energy management, soil and water conservation, and agriculture and rural livelihood issues. The DCOP should have solid professional credentials and ability to conduct and/or provide technical oversight of development of technical studies and analysis such as water balance analysis, crop water budgets, audits of energized pumpsets, and watershed management and development concepts. The DCOP must possess a comprehensive understanding of institutional arrangements and project execution at the local level in rural settings, and must have the ability to conceptualize institutional frameworks to ensure sustainability of WENEXA Project implementation over the longer term. Furthermore, the DCOP must possess in-depth understanding of the manner in which investment projects, agricultural projects, watershed development programs, and pumpset efficiency programs are implemented at the local level. This requires substantial understanding of how Projects are implemented at the local level through institutions such as Zilla

Panchayats and line officers. Furthermore, the DCOP must possess professional stature that enables him/her to effectively engage local officials at this level.