



Senior Insight Consultant (Research: Off-grid and Energy Access)

Closing Date: Sunday 7th October 2018

Position Ref No: MH 245

Location: London

Background

Energy Saving Trust are recruiting for the role of “Senior Insight Consultant” as part of our Insight and Analytics team. The role will work specifically on the Low Energy and Inclusive Appliances (LEIA) Programme, an exciting DFID funded, £18m, five-year programme designed to support the international growth of efficient off-grid appliances in lesser developed economies. We are looking for an experienced and committed research practitioner to implement a programme of research projects to better understand and inform the off-grid appliances market.

LEIA

Due in large part to the improved efficacy and cost of the super-efficient LED lighting, the quickly emerging off-grid solar market has delivered energy access to tens of millions of off- and weak-grid households and businesses worldwide. With similar shifts in efficiency and cost, other appliances appropriate for off- and weak-grid settings can enable consumers to reach even higher levels of energy access faster. The LEIA programme¹ aims to accelerate the availability, affordability, efficiency and performance of off-grid appliances suited to developing countries. It is delivered in partnership with the US based NGO CLASP² under the externally facing banner of the Efficiency for Access coalition³.

This programme represents a shift in focus for EST away from its usual customer base of on-grid households in the global north. As a result, the organisation is looking to build its capacity and knowledge in the energy access sphere. Your role in this programme will be to add to, and develop this body of knowledge and to position EST as a global leader within the energy access sector.

The project consists of 5 parallel workstreams:

1. promoting the best available technologies on the market through competitions;
2. supporting and assuring quality across the market;
3. communicating and promoting LEIA;
4. market, consumer, impact and technology research and;
5. stimulating R&D to accelerate the development of new technologies.

This role will primarily be responsible for workstream 4.

¹ For further details see: <https://devtracker.dfid.gov.uk/projects/GB-GOV-1-300111> and <https://efficiencyforaccess.org/leia>

² <https://clasp.ngo/>

³ <https://efficiencyforaccess.org/>



As the market for off-grid appliances is nascent – many appliance categories are not sold widely throughout the global south, the quality of appliances is variable and consumer needs are not fully understood – there is a great deal to learn about this market and knowledge to be made available in order to support its development.

The role

The main focus of this role will be to lead the LEIA research workstream on behalf of EST – co-ordinating with an equivalent workstream lead at CLASP. This will involve commissioning, managing and reporting on market research, consumer research, impacts research and technological research. In brief this means, characterising and quantifying the current and potential market for off-grid appliances; understanding consumer demand for these appliances; determining the impacts (economic, developmental, well-being etc) appliances will have on individuals, businesses and communities and; understanding how technologies can be developed to address these needs.

The role will involve managing external researchers to undertake discreet research projects to fulfil the LEIA research strategy requirements, and to produce specifications for new pieces of research to be undertaken by contractors.

The role will involve regular international travel to meet project partners, observe technologies in the field and to attend stakeholder events to gather insight and develop networks amongst energy access practitioners.

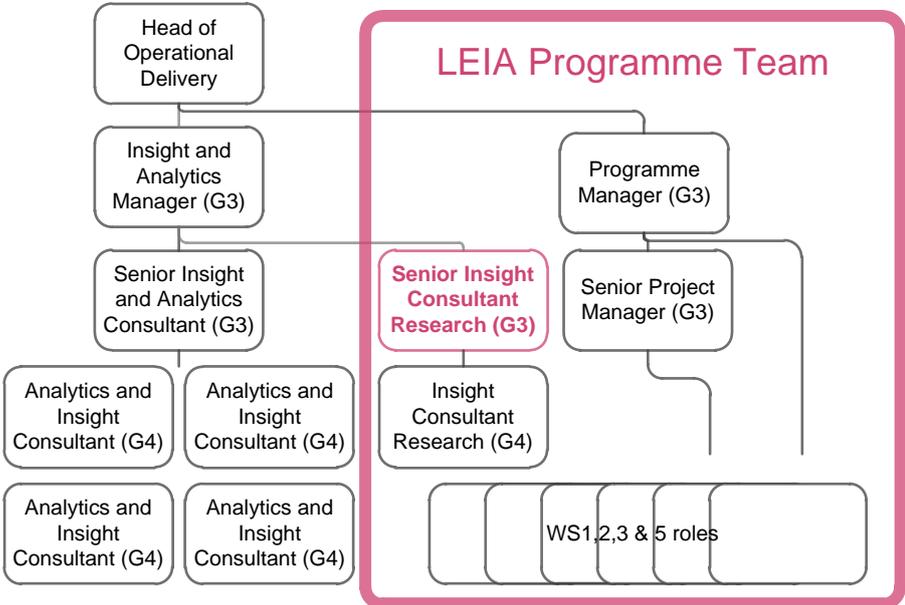
This role is ideally suited to someone with an analytical mind-set with familiarity of both quantitative and qualitative research methods. You will work closely with and manage another team member (Insight Consultant) to deliver this project, and will be called upon to assist in overall programme management and reporting.

Application

In application for this role please submit your CV (including two professional referees) and separate cover letter detailing how your previous experience meets each of the role requirements to recruitment@est.org.uk. Please address each of the points in the table below titled *Required knowledge, skills and qualifications*.

Only people with the right to work in the UK may apply for this position.

Job Description

Role Title	Senior Insight Consultant (Research: Off-grid and Energy Access)		
Directorate	Operational Delivery		
Team	Insight and Analytics		
Line Manager	Insight and Analytics Manager		
Term	Permanent		
Grade	Grade 3		
Resource management responsibilities	Budget Equipment accountabilities: Yes	People (EST) Accountability: 1 person (Insight Consultant G4)	Contractor Accountability: Management of subcontractors
Organisational Context			
Key responsibilities:	<p>Lead on Work Stream 4 of the LEIA project “Market Intelligence and Technology Road Mapping” delivering and developing the following activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategize and plan a portfolio of market, consumer, impact and technology research projects that support the programme’s objectives and inform the wider LEIA market; • Co-ordinate and manage research as part of this plan; • Produce pioneering reports for international audiences based on research undertaken on LEIA technology; • Present findings from the LEIA project to external stakeholders to position EST as a knowledge leader in the off-grid / energy access space • Develop knowledge and resources within EST in order to deliver further off-grid / energy access projects. • Co-ordinate with the LEIA technology working group and research road mapping groups 		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management and development of the Insight Consultant role including objective setting, appraisal and formulating development plans. • Manage budgets, forecasting and regularly monitor expenditure on all projects • Ensure that EST's project management and quality assurance procedures are undertaken and maintained to deliver the project outputs to the required standards and timescales.
<p>Required knowledge, skills and qualifications</p> <p>Please address each of these in your application</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding of off-grid technologies and/or sustainable energy issues; • Experience and/or understanding of sustainable development and energy access issues; • Experience of designing and undertaking research projects using both qualitative and quantitative research methods; • The ability to strategically plan and budget a research programme covering several years; • Excellent written and verbal communication skills; attention to detail; with experience of writing reports for an external audience • Experience of working within a project team, with the ability to manage and prioritise work within a busy schedule; • Proficiency with Microsoft Excel; • Ability to critically analyse knowledge and information from diverse sources; • Relevant degree or significant experience working in this area.