



Position Description:

EGG-energy Fellow, Manager of Information Systems in Tanzania

Company Overview

EGG-energy Inc. is a for-profit venture with a mission to deliver electricity to low-income customers in Africa, starting with Tanzania. Nearly 90% of the Tanzanian population has no access to the electricity grid. At the same time, 80% live within 5 kilometers of the grid. The problem is that power distribution doesn't cover the 'last mile.' As a result, Tanzanian households use expensive and hazardous substitutes such as kerosene, and cannot power devices that could improve their livelihoods.

EGG-energy provides a significantly cheaper and superior energy source for its customers with a battery swapping service. EGG takes power from the grid, packages it into portable batteries, and distributes the batteries to its customers. EGG is currently partnered with IB Energy Ltd. to operate its first site in Chanika, 40km from the city center of Dar es Salaam.

To support its operations in Tanzania and provide them with a unique experience working in a start-up at addressing the needs of the bottom of the pyramid in the developing world, EGG-energy provides young engineering graduates with fellowship opportunities.

2011 Fellowship: Manager of Information Systems Job Description

The fellow will lead the design and implementation of the information systems that will enable EGG-energy to grow and operate efficiently in Tanzania. Development of this system requires creativity and adaptability to deal with poor infrastructure and low levels of computer usage and to take advantage of the availability of mobile money transfer systems and widespread mobile phone usage. The fellow will have significant freedom in designing and building EGG-energy's system and will be supported by an office assistant and a development budget.

When the EGG-fellow first arrives in Tanzania, she or he will spend the majority of time supporting operations, expansion, and customer acquisition work at EGG-energy's pilot site and second site. After gaining understanding of EGG-energy's operations, the fellow will focus on implementation of the information system, but will allot up to a third of his or her time supporting operations.

The Manager of Information Systems works closely with and reports directly to EGG-energy's CEO. Our staff works within a highly entrepreneurial environment and for a company that is positioned for significant growth.

Responsibilities

Development of information systems to streamline EGG operations in Tanzania

- Examine EGG-energy's operations to identify potential improvements in our information management systems
- Reengineer our existing customer and battery-tracking database to meet these needs (currently Access, but looking to migrate to something more sustainable)

- Implement real-time metrics for monitoring operational efficiency
- The fellow will have significant freedom in designing this system. We anticipate the following tasks, but it is ultimately at the discretion of the fellow:
 - Work with Tanzanian staff to develop computerized battery tracking system located at station
 - Conduct computer training of Tanzanian staff
 - Implement a cost-effective SMS messaging system to communicate with our customers
 - Develop system for distribution agents to request batteries
 - Integrate our database with mobile money transfer services
 - Utilize GPS data to streamline operations and to better understand customer behavior
 - Develop partnerships with other organizations working on IT solutions in the developing world and integrating their products into our system

Execution of Expansion Plan

- Help carry out roll-out of new charging stations
- Identify and establish relationships with new distribution sites; monitor performance of new charging and distribution sites
- Develop and test sales strategies, operational improvements, and technologies

Representing EGG-energy

- Write a bi-weekly blog recapping observations from the field

Qualifications

Required:

- Strong background in ICT, particularly in database systems
- Entrepreneurial mindset
- Ability to adapt quickly and to lead, plan and manage change
- Interest in learning Kiswahili and understanding the energy usage and spending patterns of households and small businesses in Tanzania
- Capacity to live and work full-time in Dar es Salaam and at our sites in the periphery of the city center (30–70km outside)

Preferred:

- Experience with ICT in a developing country, especially in SMS, mobile apps, interface design, and web development

Terms of Fellowship

- Duration: 12 months, starting January 2011
- Supervisor: Dr. Jamie Yang, CEO of EGG-energy
- Location: Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, and surrounding areas
- Lodging: A room in a shared company house (with electricity & running water) based in an urban setting in Dar es Salaam, TZ.
- Compensation: Unpaid fellowship. EGG-energy covers all travel & housing expenses as well as 100% of work-related travel costs in Tanzania.

Contact information

Please email info@egg-energy.com with your resume and statement of interest. For more information, visit www.egg-energy.com