

Salary Band 4T	Technical Advisor: Energy seconded to SALGA under the South African – German Energy Programme (SAGEN)
Reports to:	Component Manager
Duty station:	SALGA Offices, Menlyn, Pretoria
Duration:	Until 31 December 2025

BACKGROUND

Change is accelerating within power systems across the world. The main factors driving this transformation include the economic and political drive towards low-cost clean energy solutions, the acceleration of decentralised power generation technologies, increased digitalisation, and energy efficiency reaching across entire power systems. These changes are resulting in a structural shift in the way power systems and markets are set up and operated.

The **South African-German Energy Programme (SAGEN) Programme** collaborates with South African partners to manage this energy transition with a focus on renewable energy and energy efficiency. SAGEN is funded by the German government and implemented by the **Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)** in cooperation with the **Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE)**, **Eskom** and the **South African Local Government Association (SALGA)** under the government-to-government coordination of **National Treasury (NT)**.

SAGEN's support includes the following fields of activity towards the transformation of the South African energy sector:

- A.** Power Sector Reform and Regulation
- B.** Capacity Building and Gender Mainstreaming
- C.** Power System Planning and Operation
- D.** Embedded Generation in Distribution Networks
- E.** Municipal Energy Management

A. ABOUT THE POSITION

SAGEN is looking to fill the position of a Technical Advisor to support the cooperation with SALGA on energy related topics such as sustainable municipal electricity provision, the safe integration of embedded generation (EG) into municipal infrastructure, innovative business models for municipal utilities, municipal energy management systems, just transitions, power sector reform and local economic development related to energy efficiency and renewable energy. The Technical Advisor: Energy will make a strong contribution to the regulatory framework around the South African Electricity Distribution Industry (EDI).

B. RESPONSIBILITIES AND TASKS

The Technical Advisor: Energy is required to undertake, inter alia, the following tasks:

Overarching and co-ordination support

- Coordinate the alignment of activities around the energy topics listed above and strengthen channels of collaboration between SAGEN and SALGA.
- Act as the focal point for municipal (energy) activities for all GIZ clusters and programmes and provide guidance on the collaboration with SALGA and municipalities.
 - Includes the facilitation of quarterly co-ordination meetings between SALGA and GIZ, and any ad-hoc meetings as required.
 - Establish and maintain a database of support activities and metrics for analysis of municipalities.
- Provide technical advice to SALGA, GIZ and their partners to support the navigation of energy sector trends and reforms, decision making capabilities thereof, and implications for municipalities.
- Together with the relevant SAGEN team members, develop and organize capacity building measures for municipal staff members including Mayors and Councillors on relevant topics in the fields of:
 - Electricity Distribution Industry Reform;
 - Embedded Generation; such as Municipal Energy Planning and EG Programme Development, (SS)EG policies and strategies;
 - Energy Efficiency; such as EEDSM training, Municipal Energy Management Systems, Energy Performance Certificates;
 - Just Energy Transitions, etc.
- Assist in the development of presentations, reports, publications, and support the knowledge sharing of SALGA and SAGEN support to municipalities at different fora.

Support to SALGA

- Support SALGA with their engagements and consultations around sustainable municipal electricity provision, embedded generation, innovative business models, energy management systems, just transitions, power sector reform, local economic development with core stakeholders including municipalities, SALGA provincial offices, national and international partners, NGOs, etc.
- Support SALGA in the implementation of the 2018 SALGA Energy Summit “Defining the Energy Future of Local Government” declaration and related activities.
- On the request of SALGA, support day-to-day activities with a link to GIZ focal areas.

Support to GIZ

- Ensure the planning and quality delivery of municipal energy project activities, including knowledge management, dissemination, and communication thereof, together with the relevant team members.
- Proactively support the GIZ energy cluster management with identifying future-oriented topics for the further development of the municipal energy portfolio support.
- Support the monitoring, evaluation and verification of municipal activities across components, together with management.
 - This may also include preparing and sending out surveys to municipalities where necessary and the compiling of results into reports/factsheets/infographics, such as the annual status of embedded generation report, etc.

C. REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS, COMPETENCIES AND EXPERIENCE**Qualifications**

- University degree in engineering, economics, environmental sciences, political sciences, management, public policy and administration, or similar with a focus on the electricity sector and/or sustainable energies.

Competencies and Professional Experience

- Qualification should be enhanced by at least 5 years of relevant work experience in the field of sustainable energy and/or sustainable development, ideally in the work environment of local government.
- Experience in project implementation and management related work; advisory or consulting services.

- Demonstrable ability and skills in effective multi-stakeholder engagement and partner management including working with local government, regulators, national departments, NGOs, consulting firms, etc.
- Robust knowledge of the South African energy landscape and municipal functions thereof.
- Experience in the conceptualisation of consulting approaches and their partner- and result-oriented implementation.
- Proven ability to work in a multi-disciplinary, diverse and complex environment.
- Willingness to further develop and enhance technical skills and competencies with regards to sustainable energy systems and the energy transition.
- Ability to engage proactively, time efficiently and competently in new and varying assignments, as well as strong interpersonal skills.
- Excellent writing and verbal communication and presentation skills (fluency in English).
- Ability to work as part of a team and independently in a structured, methodical manner.
- Relevant computer skills (Microsoft Office applications, online collaboration tools, etc.).

D. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- This position is primarily based at the SALGA offices in Menlyn, Pretoria.
- The successful candidate will be expected to start full-time employment with GIZ on a fixed-term contract as soon as possible. The contract period for this position is until 31 December 2025 in line with the commissioning period of the project.
- At GIZ, you will be offered a global network and an atmosphere that is characterised by diversity, respect, and genuine equal opportunities. GIZ is a signatory of the Diversity Charter. Recognition, appreciation and inclusion of diversity in the company is important to us. All employees shall be valued - regardless of gender and gender identity, nationality, ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, social background, age or sexual orientation. **We expressly welcome applications from women, persons with disabilities and from historically marginalized groups.**
- For more information, please visit:
 - GIZ-SAGEN website: www.sagen.org.za.
 - SEA-GIZ-SALGA municipal SSEG support website: www.sseg.org.za
 - SALGA Energy Summit “Defining the Energy Future of Local Government” declaration:
<https://www.salga.org.za/Documents/Documents%20and%20Publications/Documents/Final-Energy-Summit-Declaration-2018.pdf>

E. APPLICATION PROCESS

Suitable candidates should apply by submitting the following:

- **A cover letter (maximum 2 pages)** articulating their motivation for applying for the position and outlining why they are the best suited candidate addressing qualifications, competencies, experiences, as well as salary expectations.
- **A CV (maximum 4 pages)** detailing professional experience and including at least **two professional references** of previous employment with contact details.
- Candidates are expected to **submit one PDF file**, comprising of the cover letter and CV, **not exceeding 6 pages**.

The application should be submitted to: recruit-pretoria@giz.de, with the email subject line “**Technical Advisor: Energy seconded to SALGA under the South African – German Energy Programme (SAGEN)**”, for the attention of Head of Human Resources.

Closing date for applications: 05 April 2024.

Only applicants shortlisted for interview will be contacted.

Applications without a cover letter will not be considered.