

Salary Band 4T	Technical Advisor: Focus: Environment and Sustainability
Reports to:	Component Leader – H2.SA II/BVC
Duty Station	Hatfield, Pretoria
Duration	until 31 December 2030

BACKGROUND

South Africa has excellent potential for the development of a value chain for green hydrogen and its derivatives (Power-to-X, PtX) due to the favourable conditions for the production of cheap renewable electricity and its well-developed industrial infrastructure. Apart from export potential, the domestic application of GH2 and PtX can help South Africa's carbon intense industry with a green and just transition. Recognizing these trends, South Africa is establishing itself as a global green hydrogen hub, attracting international investments and partnerships that promise economic growth while reducing reliance on fossil fuels. At the same time critical raw materials (CRM) essential for industrial processes, battery production, digitalisation and overall energy transition like platinum, vanadium, chromium, nickel, and manganese are of high economic importance for the energy transition. South Africa is the largest producer of platinum group metals and manganese in the world, other critical raw materials can be found in neighbouring countries. Combined with a well-developed mining and refining sector and a highly skilled workforce, South Africa is well placed to become a regional CRM hub and develop a local value chain for critical raw materials and batteries (CRM/ battery value chain).

Challenges for the development of the green hydrogen and CRM/battery value chains exist in particular with regard to the uncertain market development, capacities, coordination and state frameworks human resources development and research as well as the integration of environmental, social, and governance (ESG) standards into the development of the value chains and related approaches for participation, social and environmental compatibility and gender-responsiveness is still insufficient.

The high potential of a just energy transition for job creation and economic development that includes dynamic value chains for green hydrogen and CRM/battery has been yet not fully realised by South African society, with e. g. labour unions fearing for jobs in the fossil industry being a prominent example. There is a need to further demonstrate that job and economic

losses from fossil industries can be replaced by creating new jobs in green industries and by utilising South Africa's RE potential for clean industrial development as well as for transforming and thus securing local automotive industry and securing quality employment in mineral processing and local automotive suppliers, chemical and energy industries. Overall, South African actors require capacity, coordination, and tools to establish a dynamic CRM/battery and green hydrogen ecosystem that supports viable projects and advances a just energy transition.

On behalf of the **European Union**, the **German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)** and in close cooperation with the South African government, the ***Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH*** is implementing the programme H2.SA II/BVC with the aim to support value chain development for critical raw materials and green hydrogen and derivatives in South Africa.

The programme has five components:

1. Strategy, policy & regulatory framework
2. Private sector cooperation
3. Capacity building, research & innovation
4. Sustainability & just transition
5. Battery value chains

The H2.SA II/BVC programme forms part of the Energy Cluster of programmes implemented by GIZ in cooperation with a variety of South African public sector partners.

The Technical Advisor will provide expertise and aid in facilitating the functions of component 4 (sustainability & just transition), mainly supporting work related to the environmental aspects of the green hydrogen economy and supporting activities around mitigating and managing social impacts. The main objective of workstream 4 is 'the application of approaches for the promotion of sustainable and gender-responsive green hydrogen economy is scaled'. Therefore, the Technical Advisor will support the development, planning and deployment of measures for application by actors in the sector, geared towards addressing potential impacts of a H2/PtX economy on the environment, and subsequently on society, and the economy. The component bolsters understanding regarding the potential effects of a hydrogen-based economy on our environment and societal structures. It must ensure that those instrumental in driving the development of a hydrogen economy are equipped with a decision-making foundation that empowers them to plan the production of hydrogen and the corresponding large-scale deployment of solar and wind energy plants in a way that aligns with environmental and societal norms. Groups that are likely to be

impacted must be actively engaged in the discourse, ensuring that environmental and societal challenges are mitigated, and acceptance for large-scale hydrogen initiatives is increased.

The Technical Advisor will work under the supervision of the component lead, as well as work alongside and in collaboration with other advisors in the workstream, and where necessary collaborate with or contribute to the other workstreams in the project.

A. TASKS AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

The Technical Advisor has the following key tasks and responsibilities:

- ❖ Support the overall implementation of the H2.SA programme focused on the expansion of a green hydrogen economy and bringing planned projects in South Africa closer to market.
- ❖ Support development of activities that promote environmental sustainability of the emerging GH2 economy.
- ❖ Contribute to the successful implementation of activities and ensure achieving the indicators of the programme.
- ❖ Conceptualise and manage required inputs and activities in cooperation with relevant stakeholders.
- ❖ Support and manage the implementation of contracts, ensuring quality deliverables, reporting and management.
- ❖ Identify, plan and implement important stakeholder engagements including meetings and workshops linked to workstream 4 activities.
- ❖ Identify and develop new activities to strengthen the contribution of workstream 4, promoting the application of measures for an environmentally sustainable GH2 economy.
- ❖ Prepare and deliver presentations, reports as well as developing concepts, terms of reference and fact sheets for supporting activities as linked to workstream 4
- ❖ Participate in operational activities of the H2.SA project, with regular updates, presentation and reporting.
- ❖ Participate in coordination and project management of workstream 4 activities including reporting, operational planning, follow up on activities, etc.
- ❖ Contribute to the Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) system by adding required information and preparing reporting inputs as required.

- ❖ Contribute to knowledge management by participating in organizing, structuring, and storing documents in a systematic manner, using existing platforms (e.g. SharePoint, MS Teams, etc.).
- ❖ Provide sustainability advice across programme workstreams and act as sustainability focal point for H2.SA II/BVC.

All tasks will be done under the supervision of the workstream 4 Component lead, and the H2.SA Programme Director.

Note that the list is not exhaustive and will be further developed.

B. REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS, COMPETENCIES AND EXPERIENCES

Qualifications:

- ❖ Relevant tertiary qualification: Master's degree in environmental sciences, Environmental Management, Environmental Engineering, Development Studies or relevant field.

Professional Experience:

- ❖ At least 5 years of relevant work experience in the fields of environmental science, environmental impact analysis, sustainability of the energy sector, energy transition, renewable energy project development, socioeconomic development, or related environmental experience.
- ❖ Experience within the South African mining, oil & gas, energy sector, water resources, or similar sectors e.g. renewable energy, and related policy frameworks.
- ❖ Experience or good knowledge of environmental impact assessment and related permitting processes, with knowledge of South Africa's environmental policy framework.
- ❖ Strong interest in issues related to green hydrogen, PtX and the energy transition and proven willingness to further develop and enhance technical skills and competencies.
- ❖ Ability to work in a multi-cultural team and autonomously in a structured, methodical manner.
- ❖ Proven ability to work and communicate professionally (written and spoken) with stakeholders from different levels in the public and private sector.
- ❖ Knowledge of project- and process management.

- ❖ Experience with stakeholder engagement and management.
- ❖ Ability to organise, multi-task and to operate in a multi-disciplinary, diverse and complex environment.
- ❖ Excellent writing and communication skills in English.

C. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- ❖ The position will be based at the GIZ Offices in Hatfield, Pretoria,
- ❖ Positions are dependent on the lifespan of the programme where they are located
- ❖ The H2.SA programme phase is until 31 December 2030.
- ❖ At GIZ, you will be offered global network and an atmosphere that is characterised by diversity, respect, and genuine equal opportunities. Gender equality promotion is a matter of course for us.
- ❖ GIZ is a signatory of the Diversity Charter. Recognition, appreciation and inclusion of diversity in the company are 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.
- ❖ GIZ would like to increase the proportion of employees with disabilities. Applications from persons with disabilities are most welcome.

D. APPLICATION PROCESS

GIZ will only assess applications which meet the following criteria:

Suitable candidates should apply by submitting a

- ❖ Cover Letter **(max. 1 page)** clearly detailing why they should be the preferred candidate and the value they will bring to work of H2.SA.
- ❖ A detailed CV **(max. 3 pages)**, indicating their nationality.
- ❖ Proof of eligibility to work in South Africa (copy of SA ID).

① **External Applications** must submit their applications by following this link:- <https://giz.simplify.hr/vacancy/tv9k1y> **to be considered.**

① **Internal Applications ONLY** should submit applications to: recruit-pretoria@giz.de with the email subject line “**Application for Technical Advisor: Focus: Environment and Sustainability**” for the attention of Head of Human Resources. Applications from external applicants submitted to recruit-pretoria@giz.de **WILL NOT** be considered.

We expressly welcome applications from women and historically marginalized groups.

Closing date for applications: **13th of October 2025**

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted and will be required to conclude an assignment prior to the interview.

Applications without a motivation letter and CVs longer than 3 pages will not be considered!!