

Two job openings for foresters Bio Energy Resources Ltd - BERL Malawi

Date: 9 June 2010

Bio Energy Resources Ltd. (BERL) is a Malawian company, formed in June 2006, with the aim of establishing a national bio-fuel business within Malawi. BERL has established *Jatropha curcas* as an additional income crop for smallholder farmers through an outgrower scheme and to provide raw material for bio-fuel production. *Jatropha curcas* is a tree of the Euphorbiaceae family, which seeds contain oil, which can be extracted by expelling and cleaning to produce biofuel. By-products from the *Jatropha* seedcake are briquettes/charcoal and organic fertilizer.

An important component in BERL's strategy is the project's contribution to reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport as well as carbon sequestration in *Jatropha* trees. This will be achieved through the creation and management of *Jatropha* trees and the processing of by-products into fuel. BERL is in the process of obtaining a carbon credit certification programme to certify the project under the Voluntary Carbon Standard, an internationally accepted standard to qualify for carbon credits.

The investor TNT NV is a Dutch multinational that has a long-term partnership with the United Nations World Food Program (WFP). When TNT and WFP evaluated the initial five-year partnership in September 2007, they agreed to continue to work together indefinitely so long as they added value to each other's causes. In addition to continuing their joint Emergency Response, knowledge transfer and awareness/fundraising initiatives in support of WFP's School Feeding Programme, the two organisations also determined to explore new ideas and frameworks that would create more sustainable solutions to fight global famine. One opportunity already identified to help create sustainable income generation in the agriculture sector is the production of cash crops for bio-energy purposes – in particular *Jatropha*.

BERL is now seeking to strengthen its organisation with two positions:

Vacancy 1: **FOREST MANAGER**

Duty station: Lilongwe, Malawi with frequent travel throughout the country

Time: per direct for 1 year with an option to extend

Qualification: Relevant B.Sc. with 5 years relevant working experience,

Knowledge of carbon offset standards and certification highly recommended

Fluent in spoken and written English

Preferably with Africa experience

Job description/responsibilities:

Together with other relevant staff, reporting to the Chief Operations Officer

- Manage a large field organisation of 60 extension staff throughout the country
- Manage the outgrower scheme of smallholder farmers
- Manage and coordinate the Field manager, the Manager Operational Control and the Trainer of Trainer
- Report on weekly basis to Chief Operations Officer
- Ensure timely and accurate data collection as input for management decisions and carbon credit certification

Qualifications:

- Experience in a large field organisation
- Previous experience from an environmental sustainability background
- Able to work in a multi-cultural environment
- Strong reporting skills
- Strong in finding creative solutions
- Self starter, able to work independently
- Strong communicator
- Must have drivers license
- Preferably familiar with GIS environments and GPS

Vacancy 2: **FOREST MONITORING & CARBON EXPERT**

Duty station: Lilongwe, Malawi with frequent travel throughout the country

Time: per direct for 1 year with an option to extend with 1 year

Qualification: Relevant B.Sc. with 2 years relevant working experience,
Knowledge of carbon offset standards and certification highly recommended
Fluent in spoken and written English
Preferably with Africa experience

Job description/responsibilities:

Together with other relevant staff, reporting to the Officer Sustainability and Public Relations]

- Coordination and design of monitoring systems and campaigns to determine the carbon sequestration in the *Jatropha* trees;
- Process the measurement data that received from field measurements,
- Prepare reports for the management team and board,
- Prepare the project's documentation for VCS and CCBA certification

Qualifications:

- Previous experience from an environmental sustainability background
 - Able to work in a multi-cultural environment
 - Self starter, able to work independently
 - Strong communicator
 - Strong forestry inventory and (data) processing skills
 - Must have drivers license
 - Preferably familiar with GIS environments and GPS
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Please send your CV and accompanying letter **before July 31, 2010** to:

Chief of Operations: Sander Donker (sander.donker@berl.biz); and,

Officer Sustainability and Public Relations: Inge Knapen (i.knapen@berl.biz)