

VIRUNGA FOUNDATION

48 Chancery Lane
London WC2A 1JF
United Kingdom



OFFRE D'EMPLOI EXTERNE N°08/VF/ICCN/2021

Context

Virunga National Park (ViNP), a UNESCO World Heritage Site, is the oldest park in Africa. It stretches over 7.800km², is home to some of the last mountain gorillas and is considered as one of the most biodiverse places in the world. Virunga Foundation (VF), an NGO incorporated under British law, has been granted the management of Virunga National Park in partnership with the Congolese Institute for the Conservation of Nature (ICCN).

VF has launched a vast social and economic development program to anchor its conservation efforts within the broader context of a just, and green economic transition for the local communities (5 million people, 70% of whom live below the poverty line as defined by the World Bank) in the Province of North Kivu. In addition to the conservation of the Park, VF has established 4 development priorities: electricity, entrepreneurship, agriculture and tourism.

Electricity

Virunga Energies ("VE"), wholly owned by VF, is the company responsible for the electrification of the Province of North Kivu. At present, VE operates 3 hydropower plants for a total of ~ 30 MW and transmits and distributes electricity in the regions of Rutshuru, Lubero, Mutwanga and the city of Goma. The company is in advanced discussions with financial backers to increase electricity generation and significantly extend its distribution network. It is estimated that each MW distributed locally creates between 800 and 1,000 additional jobs, of which, on average, 10% are occupied by former members of armed groups, establishing a direct link between electrification and the development of peace in a region affected by insecurity for several decades.

Entrepreneurship

The entrepreneurship program aims to support (micro) enterprises in their development and remove the barriers that (small) entrepreneurs face. The program is divided into two main activities:

1. the granting of innovative loans (the reimbursement of a loan is based on the the electricity consumption of the entrepreneur);
2. the management of 2 industrial zones of ~5 Ha each, intended to accommodate companies with an industrial project.

Agriculture

The agriculture program supports farmers in North Kivu to improve agricultural yields and supports agro-industrial processing activities that generate added economic value. To this end, VF supports in particular the following agricultural and fishing value chains: corn, potatoes, cocoa, coffee, papain, chia, palm fruits and fish from Lake Edouard.

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Tourism

Virunga promotes the development of international ecotourism, respectful of the environment and to the benefit of the local population (profits are reinvested locally). At present, it is possible to visit one of the most active volcanoes in the world (the last eruption of which was on May 22, 2021), the last mountain gorillas, the island of Tchegeza and savannah animals in the plains of Rwindi (Lulimbi camp).

In order to continuously improve its impact on the region's development, **Virunga Foundation is recruiting 1 Head of Investments.**

Candidate's profile

| | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Role | Head of Investments |
| Date of opening | 08/11/2021 |
| Profile | Master in Economics, Finance, Business |
| Experience | 3+ years of experience in finance, strategy and / or operational consultancy, entrepreneurship |
| Reporting line | CEO Virunga Energies while supporting the other VF departments in a transversal way in the management of their investments. |
| Location | Rumangabo, Matebe or Goma, North Kivu, DR Congo |
| Skills and competences | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Excellent command of French and English oral and written communication• Excellent command of Word, Excel and Powerpoint• Experience with management tools such as CRMs and ERPs• Mastery of tools such as business plan and financial plan• Pragmatic and entrepreneurial spirit• Ability to work independently and problem solve• Ability to understand macroeconomic issues and develop strategic analyzes |

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Main responsibilities

The Head of Investments oversees three sets of activities:

1. Manage the loan program
2. Manage industrial zones
3. Support other departments to drive operational efficiencies and revenue-generating investments

1. Loan program

- Supervise a team of 4 financial analysts, strategically pilot the loan program, and chair the Technical Committee of loans on a monthly basis;
- Monitor investments and support entrepreneurs;
- Find additional funding to increase the scale of the program;
- Identify the levers for improving the program (eg, analyzes, digitization, recovery) in order to ensure its financial and social sustainability;
- Improve related tools to support entrepreneurship (training, analytical tools, individual counseling sessions).

2. Management of industrial zones (and cold rooms)

- Supervise a team of 4 employees, strategically pilot the industrial zones (selection of companies, layout of companies in the zones, identification of levers for improvement);
- Ensure commercial success of industrial zones;
- Ensure the financial sustainability of industrial zones and find additional funding to increase the scale of the program;
- Ensure compliance with the laws and regulatory obligations of Virunga Développement, the entity that operates the industrial zones.

3. Support for business analyses

- Contribute to the process of developing the strategic plan of VE and anticipate the challenges of the next 5 years;
- Support other VF departments, including VE, in the identification, analysis and implementation of their investments by setting up an internal analysis center ("internal consulting");
- Detect, analyze and convert economic development opportunities within and around Virunga National Park into viable projects (including, identify and convert donors) and develop the necessary documents to find funds.

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Why Virunga?

Contractual conditions

- Competitive international salary;
- 2-year contract (renewable) with 3-month trial period;
- Medical coverage & repatriation;
- Accommodation, catering and on-site transportation supported by the ' employer;
- Safety device for the implementation of activities in the field.

In addition to advantageous contractual conditions, you:

- Will have the opportunity to directly contribute to the improvement of a vast economic development program with a profound impact on the periphery of Virunga National Park (the park is the largest employer in the region, Virunga Energies is on the way to becoming the largest electricity supplier in eastern Congo);
- Enjoy significant independence in carrying out your work;
- Live in a unique place in the world (departing from the park headquarters in Rumangabo), a UNESCO World Heritage Site, while enjoying the more social aspects of a large city such as Goma (1 to 3 hours' drive between different camps);
- Will be able to evolve in the long term in the organization.

Application documents

A cover letter, a CV and three references.

How to apply

Please send your application to recruitment@virunga.org by copying jgabriel@virunga.org. Indicate the following reference in the subject line of the email "VD / Head of investments / 2021 / [Your name]".

Rumangabo, 08/11/2021

For Virunga Foundation
Emmanuel de Merode
CEO