

## **Manager - Technical Assistance & Strategy (f/m/\*) in the area of Development Finance**

**Starting as soon as possible (40h/week), Cologne**

ACGF– Afghan Credit Guarantee Foundation is a charitable foundation based in Cologne, Germany with an additional office in Berlin. ACGF was founded in September 2014 by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and DEG – Deutsche Investitions- und Entwicklungsgesellschaft mbH (a member of the KfW Group). ACGF is further supported with funds provided by the World Bank and KfW Development Bank. In early 2023, ACGF has received additional funding by the European Union for the implementation of a 3-year program for private sector support.

ACGF's mission is to improve access to finance for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in Afghanistan by providing credit guarantees and related technical assistance to Partner Institutions (PIs) – banks, micro-finance, and micro-deposit institutions. ACGF is also in the process of establishing a matching grants facility in Afghanistan.

ACGF is looking for a **Manager (f/m/\*)** for its Technical Assistance & Strategy Department in Cologne. The department comprises of a maximum of four employees.

The Technical Assistance & Strategy Department manages all Technical Assistance (TA) activities implemented by ACGF with the aim to improve access to finance for MSMEs (i.e. capacity building for financial institutions, establishment of best-practice MSME lending processes at financial institutions, introduction of new lending products, market research etc.). It specifically develops strategies and implements activities for inclusion of specific target-groups, such as women-owned businesses, agriculture-business & young entrepreneurs. It further handles the coordination with (potential) donors, such as EU and World Bank, as well as the further strategic development of ACGF's business, i.e. through the development of roadmaps, business plans and similar.

### **Your Tasks:**

- You will be responsible for the identification of TA needs of PIs and other beneficiaries as well as oversee the subsequent design and management of the respective projects by ensuring the implementation of the following activities in line with ACGF's processes and procedures:
  - Planning and design of TA projects for PIs and other beneficiaries in line with ACGF's objectives and stakeholder's needs as well as best-practices of MSME finance.
  - Procurement and contract management of external consultants.
  - Management and monitoring of the implementation of TA projects by external consultants, ensuring achievement of all set objectives.
  - Administration of TA projects, incl. the structuring of agreements, drafting of internal project / approval documents etc.
  - Cooperation with ACGF's external Islamic Finance experts whenever needed to ensure that activities are Sharia-compliant.
- You will manage the further development of ACGF's activities in ACGF's strategic business areas of agriculture finance, women finance and finance to young entrepreneurs. You will manage the implementation of TA activities for MSMEs under the EU program.
- You will ensure close interaction and alignment with ACGF's PIs as well as ensure required support from ACGF's subsidiary in Afghanistan, SCSA.
- You will identify needs for change as well as growth opportunities for ACGF's TA activities. You will lead the periodic review and improvement of ACGF's TA processes and procedures

and specifically ensure and further develop coordination and interaction with other departments within ACGF, especially Operations.

- You will ensure impact-based reporting to donors and other stakeholders on TA activities.
- You will be responsible for donor coordination. You will lead the communication with donors and other stakeholders for the purpose of fundraising as well as manage the development and oversee the implementation of donor programs in cooperation with the Operations department.
- You will be responsible to contribute to the further strategic development of ACGF, in close coordination with ACGF's Board of Directors, including the adaptation of ACGF's Business Plan, the drafting of concept notes, fundraising papers and similar.
- You will be responsible to manage the department's staff (incl. regular performance reviews and similar) as well as to develop and manage the department's budget.

### Your Profile:

- Academic degree preferably in a subject related to the field of economics, business administration or public policy
- At least 5 years of relevant job experience in at least one of the following two fields of expertise; a combination of both is an asset:
  - Management / administration of projects in the area of development cooperation (ideally in financial sector support / MSME finance and/or agriculture finance, women finance, Islamic finance)
  - MSME banking experience (ideally in a developing country context)
- Ideally valid permit to work in Germany
- Excellent communication skills (oral and in writing)
- Excellent command of English language. German skills would be of advantage.
- Advanced knowledge of MS Office software
- Dedication to detail and diligence
- Good analytical and problem-solving skills
- Ability to handle multiple tasks under time pressure
- Ability to integrate in a multi-cultural environment
- Self-dependent, reliable, team-oriented and interested in a long-term engagement
- Commitment to and interest in the philosophy and goals of development cooperation

### What We Offer:

- A job in a distinctly international environment
- Flexible working hours including mobile working possibilities
- An environment supporting autonomous and results-oriented work with short communication and decision-making processes
- Opportunities for participation in training courses, e.g. in the area of Islamic Finance
- An office in the heart of Cologne that is easily accessible by public transport
- Competitive salary
- Opportunity to contribute to a visible impact in Afghanistan

### Ready for Change?

We are looking forward to getting to know you. For more information about us, please visit our website at [www.acgf.de](http://www.acgf.de).

Please apply **here** (<https://acgf.bamboohr.com/careers/163>) with a cover letter, CV and remuneration expectation. Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis.

For any questions regarding this job announcement, please contact Mrs. Michaelis at [c.michaelis@acgf.de](mailto:c.michaelis@acgf.de)