

Comundo places and accompanies co-workers on assignments in Africa and Latin America and is the leading Swiss organisation for personnel development cooperation. The cooperation with local partner organisations contributes to a sustainable improvement of the living conditions of children and youths. We offer you the chance to share your knowledge and set a unique milestone in your biography!

Specialist for Solar Technology Training and Green Innovations

Country, Place: Kenya, Kisumu
Partner Organisation: Make Me Smile Kenya
Duration: 2 years
Start of assignment: as soon as possible

Comundo Kenya, in partnership with county governments and non-governmental organizations in Kilifi, Kisumu, and Laikipia Counties, is strengthening **Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET)** institutions to become **Centres of Vocational Expertise (CoVEx)** that deliver high-quality, market-relevant skills for sustainable livelihoods

Make Me Smile Kenya (MMS-K) is a Kenyan non-governmental organisation founded in 2009. The organisation works to improve the lives of vulnerable children, youth, and families through education, skills development, economic empowerment, and community development. Its vision is a world where every child has the opportunity to achieve their full potential and actively participate in society. MMS-K operates the **Smiles Hub Vocational Training Centre (VTC)** in Kisumu, which offers accredited vocational training in Solar Technology, ICT, Hairdressing, and Clothing & Textiles. This assignment aims to strengthen MMS-K's capacity to provide high-quality solar technology training and green enterprise development opportunities for young people – especially young women – enabling them to access sustainable livelihoods and decent employment in Kenya's growing renewable energy sector.

Your activities/task

As a **Comundo Technical Advisor**, you will be part of Comundo's Kenya Country Programme and will be seconded to MMS-K and other vocational training centres to strengthen vocational training in solar technology and green entrepreneurship. Your work will contribute to transforming the Smiles Hub (and other Vocational Training Centres) into a **centre of expertise for renewable energy training, innovation, and enterprise development**.

Based at Make Me Smile Kenya, you will:

- Strengthen technical and pedagogical capacity of MMS-K and other CoVEx vocational trainers in Kisumu, Kilifi and Laikipia Counties to independently deliver advanced solar technology training
- Review, upgrade and expand the solar technology curriculum to include advanced topics such as solar irrigation, mini-grids, battery storage, and green entrepreneurship
- Establish the Smiles Hub as a community-based solar innovation centre where students can design, test, and implement practical renewable energy solutions
- Promote the participation and success of young women in solar technology training and careers

- Strengthen linkages with industry and employers to facilitate internships, employment, and business opportunities for graduates
- Support graduates in developing sustainable solar-related enterprises and accessing entrepreneurial support services
- Foster collaboration with government agencies, training institutions, and private-sector stakeholders to strengthen renewable energy skills development in Kisumu, Kilifi and Laikipia Counties

Your profile

- Degree, Master Craftsman Certification, diploma or equivalent qualification in Renewable Energy Engineering, Solar Technology, or a closely related field
- Minimum 3 years of practical experience in solar PV system design, installation, and maintenance, including mini-grid or solar irrigation systems
- Experience in Technical training curriculum development and/or technical training delivery
- Proficient in computer applications and excellent command of English
- Familiarity with enterprise development, green business modelling, or social enterprise in the energy sector is a strong advantage
- Experience working in sub-Saharan Africa or other low-resource contexts is an advantage

General requirements

- Strong intercultural competencies and the ability to adapt to diverse contexts.
- Resident in Switzerland or EU
- Good physical and mental health
- Able to work independently while contributing effectively within a team
- You are motivated to live a simple lifestyle
- You are prepared to contribute to public relations and fundraising for Comundo

We offer

- A dynamic work environment with room for initiative, participation, and intercultural exchange
- Thorough preparation and ongoing support throughout your assignment
- In-depth orientation on the local context
- Coverage of living expenses and insurance during your stay
- Round-trip travel costs
- Initial financial support upon return

Application Process

Before submitting a written application, we highly recommend contacting Comundo and attending an information session in your region. These sessions provide detailed insights into, the application process, working conditions and culture, the benefits of working with Comundo.

Find upcoming event dates and additional details on our website: www.comundo.org

Contact

Deutschschweiz

einsatz@comundo.org

Tel. +41 (0)58 854 11 86

Suisse romande

lausanne@comundo.org

Tél. +41 (0)58 854 12 40

Svizzera italiana

bellinzona@comundo.org

Tel. +41 (0)58 854 12 14