

Sistema Biobolsa is a small-scale biodigester initiative that aims to install thousands of small biodigesters to treat organic waste and produce renewable energy in communities throughout Central and Southern Mexico. Sistema Biobolsa is looking for talented and motivated people to fill the following positions:

1. Sistema Biobolsa Field Technician

Field Technicians are responsible for community outreach events, promoting the technology and identifying potential farms, installing Sistema Biobolsa, and conducting follow-up and monitoring of the systems that are installed. Technicians work in local regions, but may also be required to work in other parts of Mexico or internationally. This work is all based in rural areas and requires close work with rural communities, families, and farm animals as well as physical and potentially dirty labor while installing systems.

The ideal candidate is motivated to work in rural development and renewable energy and wants to be a part of a growing movement. We are looking for women and men, with preference given to those with experience working with people and in situations with a high degree of self-management. Other preferable characteristics include a university degree or advanced degree in environmental engineering, animal science, social development or other related fields. Candidates must have a basic understanding of construction processes, and have basic skills such as the use of tools and building materials, such as PVC and cement. Experience in biodigesters is a huge plus, and so is experience in specific development initiatives and renewable energy. All candidates should have strong communication skills, including the ability to use email and basic computer programs. All candidates should be of high moral character, and be able to work in a team and independently. Preference will be given to those who have their own vehicle, and all candidates should be able to drive.

Pay rates are competitive, adjusted for experience, and we offer medical coverage and additional benefits. We are offering full and part time positions currently, focuses in the areas of Central Puebla, Estado de Mexico, and Veracruz. We will be considering candidates on a continual basis until all positions are filled, with training events held every three weeks.

2. Field Engineer for Large Biodigester Installations

This position is for a technical leader of our small and medium farm division. This person must have all of the qualities listed above, and be able to fill the following additional requirements. This person is responsible for design and oversight of medium scale biodigester installations that may involve more extensive site work, construction, and engineering. Medium systems may have to comply with legal discharge limits and other regulations. Medium systems may integrate solids pumps, gas blowers, solid separators, and electrical generators. Experience with electricity, civil engineering and construction, and waste management is desirable. Candidates must have an advanced degree in engineering, waste water treatment, or project management. Training in the specifics of medium scale biogas installations will be provided for candidates that show the right profile and motivation for the project. We would consider proposals from other companies and groups to fill subcontracting positions.

3. Research Interns

The International Renewable Resources Institute and Sistema Biobolsa is offering an opportunity for advanced degree candidates working in degrees surrounding low carbon development, renewable energy, sustainable agriculture, or microfinance to conduct their research surrounding our small scale biodigester program in Mexico, Nicaragua or Honduras. Combining carbon finance, microfinance, public/private collaborations, sustainable agriculture, and renewable energy, our biodigester installation program offers an interdisciplinary context to conduct research in to a number of interesting questions. Candidates will be selected from Universities from throughout the world, and will be selected based the quality of a one page research proposal, CV, and an intro letter explaining why you are interested in working on this type of project in Mexico, and why you could become a useful member of a team of technicians and researchers. We may consider up to five researchers, for minimum research periods of two months. Preference will be given to those proposing research that integrates multiple years of data collection. We are currently looking for researchers that can start planning immediately for spring/summer in-country research. Fluent Spanish is important, and preference may be given to native Spanish speakers.

Those participating in research in this initiative may also be considered for future positions through the international expansion of the program. Please send one-page research proposal, CV and cover letter to alex@irrimexico.org before March 1st, 2011.