

Salary Band 5	Regional Technical Advisor – SADC-EU EPA
Reports to:	Component Lead – CESARE RVCL+
Duration:	Until 30 September 2026
Duty Station	Maseru, Lesotho

BACKGROUND

The Government of Lesotho received funding from the **European Union (EU)** and the **German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)** to implement the project: **“Lesotho economic growth, job creation and Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) implementation support programme”** also known as RVCL+. The project is implemented by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für International Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH. The main objective of the project is to support the implementation of the SADC-EU Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) in Lesotho and to enhance regional and international trade through the development of regional value chains in agro-processing and in light industry. This will be achieved through capacity building of the Ministry of Trade Industry and Business Development (MTIBD) and the private sector to benefit from the EPA and seize trading opportunities, capacity building of relevant stakeholders in Lesotho and other selected SADC countries to create an enabling environment for private sector development in selected regional value chains and improved capacities of MSMEs to manage selected value chains within the framework of SADC- EU EPA.

RVCL+ is a component of the programme **“Cooperation for Enhancement of SADC Regional Economic Integration (CESARE)”** which supports the **Southern African Development Community (SADC)** in promoting trade between its 16 Member States. CESARE works with the SADC Secretariat in a variety of areas ranging from the elimination of non-tariff barriers (NTBs) to trade; support for negotiations on trade in services; trade facilitation measures and support to the SADC industrialization agenda including the development of regional value chains.

A. RESPONSIBILITIES

The SADC-EU EPA Regional Advisor is responsible for:

- Managing RVCL+ support to MTIBD and private sector in the area of increased capacity development for regional economic integration and trade, including but not limited to the implementation of SADC-EU EPA and other regional and international trade agreements.
- Assisting project initiatives to provide professional advisory services to and cooperate with MTIBD and a broad range of target groups
- Innovation and knowledge management

B. TASKS

Advising the partner institution

- Provision of technical expertise to MTIBD about implementing and using trade agreements in particular the SADC-EU EPA
- Supports the public and private sector in the implementation of SADC-EU EPA and other relevant regional and international trade agreements.
- Provides training to MTIBD and other stakeholders in relevant topics regarding EPA and other regional and international trade agreements and monitors the impact of trainings.
- Supports MTIBD in awareness raising on SADC-UP EPA among MSMEs, CSOs, academia and media
- Deals with the design, preparation and implementation of workshops, seminars, trainings and other events on issues connected with the programme's area of activity
- Develops and organises quality assurance measures and suggests necessary changes, improvements and initiatives

Networking and cooperation

- Supports cooperation, regular contact and dialogue with partners and cooperates with relevant organisations and individuals in the project environment and with other projects to improve and maintain good working relationships
- Communicates local interests and efforts, forwards these and encourages sharing ideas and information for the benefit of the project
- Coordinates work with other development partners in the relevant areas

Knowledge management

- Ensures knowledge transfer
- Supports the development and use of ready-to-use strategies and technical concepts, including guidelines, manuals and procedures
- Draws up reports and presentation documents
- Prepares appropriate input for various programme reports including EU annual implementation reports, and contributes to other reports as requested
- Assists with research activities and studies

Coordination and other tasks

- Assists with general project planning and develops project concepts including preparation, organisation and moderation of planning exercises and their implementation, management, monitoring, quality management, evaluation, communication and documentation
- Assists in the preparation and follow-up development of Terms of Reference for relevant consultants and contractors
- Compiles the relevant information for joint activities and assignments
- Supports programme management activities (e.g. offer preparation, impact monitoring, project progress review, reporting)
- Provides regular updates to the Component Lead on the progress of activities
- Carries out other related tasks as assigned by the Component Lead

C. REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS, COMPETENCES AND EXPERIENCE**Qualifications**

- A completed master's degree in economics, business administration, law, trade policy or a similar area

Professional experience

- Sufficient background in SADC EPA implementation, with relevant knowledge in practical implementation topics.
- At least eight (8) years of relevant professional experience
- Knowledge of international trade and regional integration
- Knowledge of the SADC region and already established contacts with relevant actors are regarded as assets

Other knowledge, additional competences

- Fluency in English as an official working language
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills with ability to work in a multicultural and multilingual environment
- Very good working knowledge of ITC technologies and computer applications (e.g. MS Office)
- Willingness to upskill as required by the tasks to be performed
- Willingness to undertake regular travels throughout the SADC region

Assignment period and duty station

The duration of the assignment is from **1st February 2025 to 30th September 2026**.

The assignment will be carried out in **Maseru, Lesotho**, with possible travels within **SADC member States**. The incumbent will be posted within the **GIZ - RVCL+ project** in **Maseru**.

D. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- This position is based at GIZ in **Maseru, Lesotho**.
- GIZ offers a global network and an atmosphere characterized by diversity, respect and equal opportunities, including gender equality promotion.
- GIZ is a signatory to the diversity charter which recognizes that all employees shall be valued regardless of gender and gender identity, nationality, ethnicity, religion or belief, disability, social background, age, or sexual orientation.
- GIZ offers an international working environment (**SADC, GIZ, EU**) as part of a dynamic and multicultural team.
- There are possible training and personal development opportunities
- At GIZ, you will be offered global network and an atmosphere that is characterised by diversity, respect and genuine equal opportunities. Gender equality promotion is a matter of course for us.
- GIZ is a signatory of the Diversity Charter. Recognition, appreciation and inclusion of diversity in the company are important to us. All employees shall be valued - regardless of gender and gender identity, nationality, ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, social background, age or sexual orientation.
- GIZ would like to increase the proportion of employees with disability. Applications from persons with disabilities are most welcome.

E. APPLICATION PROCESS

GIZ will only assess applications which meet the following criteria:

Suitable candidates should apply by submitting a

- ❖ A motivation letter (**concisely 1 page**) stating why they should be the preferred candidate, the value added they will bring to the project and **their desired salary range.**
- ❖ This should be accompanied by a detailed CV and **indicating their nationality.** Applications should be submitted to: recruit-pretoria@giz.de, with the email subject line “**Application for Regional Technical Advisor – SADC-EU EPA**” for the attention of Head of Human Resource.

NB: Interviews will be held online (MS Teams) or in Maseru, Lesotho
Applications from the Southern African Development Community (SADC) regions are encouraged to apply

Closing date for applications: **13th December 2024.**

Only shortlisted for interview will be contacted.

Applications without a Cover letter will not be considered!