

Research Group Leader: Distributed Ledger Technology (DLT)

Email CV to; recruitment@tianaconsulting.co.za

Remuneration - (R 1 099 815 – R 1 649 722)

About the job:

The incumbent will be responsible for the provision of strategic and technical leadership to a research group, including people management, business development, financial sustainability and operations management. This position is based in Pretoria.

Key responsibilities:

- Contribute to strategic investment goal setting and development of RDI strategy;
- Implement the research, development and innovation (RD&I) strategy for the Research Centre;
- Lead researchers and engineers;
- Promote a culture of science, engineering and technology (SET) excellence and provide RDI leadership of multiple disciplines;
- Ensure that the area remains industry and/or service delivery relevant with national and international standing that is directed at cutting edge;
- Propose and/or contribute to the strategic investment plan and implement Parliamentary Grant, Contract Research and Development and other grant-funded projects;
- Develop and implement a business plan for operation, sustainable growth, impact and robustness of area (including strategy, goals, mission, HR, finances, technology transfer, IP and commercialization);
- Assume leadership in the provision of technical solutions to client programmes;
- Deeply understand the needs of the industry by integrating sector knowledge in multi-dimensional research and development programs in order to deliver industry aligned RDI;
- Ensure staff development and strategic Human Capital Development;
- Ensure a well-balanced cutting edge SET capability, in terms of the elements of research, engineering design, or systems/enterprise engineering;
- Ensure SET outputs are achieved;
- Deliver on all KPIs of the area and ensure that all outputs are achieved, including transformation, profit and loss, quality, health, safety and environment as per agreed targets;
- Implement and comply with appropriate financial, business systems requirements, including operational approvals;
- Network with peers in the fields expertise within and outside the CSIR;
- Engage with clients and industry partners to develop long term relationships;
- Provide technical support on business development and participate in client interactions;
- Manage projects through planning of appropriate processes and policies to ensure Intellectual Property (IP) protection and technology transfer;
- Lead the strategic direction and day-to-day execution of blockchain and DLT R&D projects, including managing a multidisciplinary team of engineers and data scientists.
- Ensure timely delivery of technically complex outcomes related to cryptocurrency analytics, on- and off-chain data, and related blockchain protocols.
- In collaboration with the Business Development and Commercialization portfolio:
 - Drive the transfer of technology and solutions design to industry/user environment;
 - Package technologies for commercialisation or develop an “investment ready business” through financial modelling market assessment and business plan development.

Qualifications, skills and experience:

- A Master's degree in computer science/engineering, information technology or related field.
- At least five years' experience in technologies domain research within an RDI environment, ideally in blockchain, DLT, or cryptocurrency-related field.
- Sound experience in managing a team of multi-disciplinary professions;
- Proven track record in project management and research project leadership;
- Ability to provide thought leadership and high level conceptualisation;
- Ability to work independently as well as in teams;
- Business Development and financial acumen;

- Excellent communication and presentation skills;
- Conflict management skills;
- Decisiveness and action orientation;
- Project Management skills.
- Appropriate national and international RDI networks;
- An understanding of the research to market 'innovation' value chain.