

The Lightsmith Group – VP/Principal Job Description

Opportunity:

A recently established, award-winning private equity firm focused on superior financial returns through sustainable investment seeks a highly motivated, entrepreneurial Vice President or Principal to join the founding team. In addition to developing investment experience, the VP/Principal will have the rare chance to work directly with senior partners in the launch phase of the fund and to gain exposure to investment strategy and investor and stakeholder engagement in a global context.

The Firm:

Founded by partners with deep backgrounds in direct investing, government, international development, and climate finance, The Lightsmith Group pursues investment strategies that deliver superior returns by addressing the world's critical needs for sustainable energy, food, water, transport, and climate solutions. The firm's senior partners each have over 20 years of experience within leading private equity and growth equity investment firms (Carlyle, VantagePoint Capital) as well as in US and international government agencies (OPIC, IFC). The firm is launching the first fund focused on global growth equity investments in companies with climate resilience solutions and achieved first close of the fund in December 2019. The full fund size is targeted to be \$250-400 million.

Responsibilities:

The VP/Principal will be involved in directly supporting the two senior partners and current Associate in the development and investment of the fund. Key activities will include:

- Leading analysis of 1-2 subsectors for investment strategy;
- Identifying and engaging potential investment target companies;
- Co-leading/supporting origination and deal execution with senior partners;
- Leading, assisting in due diligence, financial modeling, and deal execution; and
- Supporting investor and stakeholder engagement and communication.

As a core member of the founding team, the VP/Principal will also be involved in the development of the firm's culture and values, processes, and strategic positioning.

Qualifications:

An ideal candidate would have the following attributes:

- At least 5-7 years of top tier investment banking, private equity, or hedge fund finance and investing experience. Select backgrounds in management consulting or technology operating companies will also be considered;
- Strong undergraduate education, with MBA or graduate education a plus;
- Extremely strong analytical and financial modeling skills;
- Very strong writing and communications skills, including presentation (PowerPoint) and social media skills; and
- Entrepreneurial, self-starting personality with strong team orientation and bias for action.

In addition, the following fund-specific experience and skills are a plus:

- International experience and foreign language skills;
- International development experience;
- Climate finance experience or exposure to climate science or environmental engineering;
- Sector-based exposure to data and analytics, water, food and agriculture, energy, transport, financial services.

Location:

- New York City (Manhattan)

Compensation:

- Market competitive compensation, with the potential for accelerated advancement as the firm grows.

If interested, please send a resume and cover letter to jay.koh@lightsmithgp.com and serena.shi@lightsmithgp.com.