



Executive Summary

The Renewable Nations Institute (herein “RNI” or “Institute”), a Vermont-based, tax-exempt, nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation, seeks to explore the feasibility of collaborating with the University of Vermont (UVM) and the Vermont State Colleges (VSC) to develop and operate a Work-College Consortium (Consortium)—the *International Center for Work-Learning Service and Leadership in Sustainability*—across the UVM and VSC systems in compliance with Title 34, Subtitle B, Chapter VI, Part 675, Subpart C of the U.S. Department of Education.

The proposed Consortium, consisting of UVM, VSC and other leading university-based engineering schools, will operate a Sustainable Energy Project Incubator (Incubator) service offering Work-Learning-Service internship opportunities designed to prepare undergraduate, graduate students and adult learners for the global energy efficiency and renewable energy (EERE) workforce, which is projected to grow from 11 million workers (2018) to 35 million workers by 2050.

The Incubator service will provide a sustained economic development platform for the State of Vermont to participate in the global EERE economy and the emerging *Interconnected Global Health Emergency System* as the Institute fulfills its Partnership Commitments to the Division for Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations (UN) Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN-DESA) and the Executive Office of the Secretary-General of the United Nations (UN-EOSG) to provide integrated energy services planning.

As of March 2020, in response to the United Nations *Call to Action—Shared Responsibility, Global Solidarity: Responding to the socio-economic impacts of COVID-19*, and the World Bank Group (WBG) *COVID-19 Emergency Response Commitment*, the Institute’s UN-DESA and UN-EOSG Partnership Commitments are to provide technical assistance services for national-scale planning for healthcare facility electrification in countries identified by the World Health Organization (WHO) as lacking access to electricity or reliable electric power within their health systems infrastructure to effectively cope with the COVID-19 pandemic.

The WHO estimates that 4.8 billion people (61.5% of the world’s population) are uniquely vulnerable to the health impacts of COVID-19 due to the lack of access to electricity and reliable electric power, and that an investment of \$2.7 trillion is required through 2030 to provide universal access to electricity and reliable electric power for healthcare facilities in over 100 WHO-targeted countries on the WBG *COVID-19 Emergency Response Commitment Projects List*.

The Consortium-based, Work-College internship program will:

1. Coordinate service-learning activities under UN-EOSG Track #3, *Youth Engagement & Public Mobilization*, designed to increase public awareness of the urgent need for healthcare facility electrification in developing countries to protect vulnerable populations from COVID-19;
2. Support the development and implementation of the WHO-managed *Global Assessment of Electricity in Healthcare Facilities (report), Call for Expression of Interest*;
3. Provide long-term technical assistance and human capacity building services for the *Health and Energy Platform of Action (HEPA)* for the WHO-targeted countries on the WBG *COVID-19 Emergency Response Commitment Projects List*; and

4. Accelerate the development of an “*Interconnected Global Health Emergency System*” with the capacity to deliver telehealth services to remote facilities across national health systems.

These services, including the development of EERE investment-grade proposals for healthcare facility electrification, will constitute internship “Work-Products” within the proposed Incubator service in direct support of United Nations Sustainable Energy for All (SEforALL) Initiative, a joint program of the United Nations and the World Bank Group, and the WHO-designated global healthcare facility electrification coordinating entity.

Special Purpose Vehicle

On 10 September 2020, the RNI established a Vermont-based Low-Profit Limited Liability Company (L3C), Business ID: 0377172, as a special purpose vehicle (SPV) to develop two capital funds utilizing the mechanism of Security and Exchange Commission (SEC) Regulation D 506 (c), Exempt Offering:

1. **Work-College Consortium (WCC) Fund:** The WCC Fund will finance, plan, design, engineer, develop, construct, retrofit, furnish and/or equip a professional workstation-based Sustainable Energy Project Incubator service, and an advanced distance-learning network (ADLN) across 300 domestic and foreign higher education institutions (HEIs) and multi-sector partners of the Work-College Consortium; and
2. **Healthcare Facility Electrification (HFE) Fund:** The HFE Fund will finance healthcare facility electrification in WHO-targeted countries on the *WBG COVID-19 Emergency Response Commitment Projects List* in coordination with the United Nations *Health and Energy Platform of Action* (HEPA), and in compliance with the *WBG COVID-19 Emergency Power Supply Response* and the *Sustainable Energy for All, Powering Health Facilities—Approach*. Revenue from EERE investment-grade proposals developed and implemented by the Consortium’s Incubator service will provide long-term revenue for the RNI and L3C members under an innovative Payback+5x5 Energy Service Contract (ESCO) agreement.

Employment and Economic Impact

The Institute will create in excess of 192 direct jobs: 11 administrators, 43 faculty positions; 26 auxiliary services staff (operations, maintenance and food service); and 112 full-time-equivalent (FTE) paid interns designated as United Nations Junior Fellows. Annual direct and indirect economic impact to the State of Vermont is projected in excess of up to \$56 million after Year-5 of operations, based upon recurring revenue from Energy Service Contracts (ESCOs) developed under the RNI’s Sustainable Energy Project Incubator service and implemented by private sector EERE industry partners.

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