

Job Vacancy
(Afghan Nationals Only)

Job Title: **Programmer/Developer**
Organization Unit: Afghan Computer Science Association (ACSA)
Project Name: Afghanistan Localization Program (ALP), PAN L10n Afghan Component
Job Type: Full Time
Duration: 10-12 Months (Renewable after successful completion of a three month initial probationary period)
No. of Positions: 2
Closing date: 20 January, 2006

Background:

Afghanistan Localization Program (ALP) is a project of Afghan Computer Science Association (ACSA) and Ministry of Communications working on translation of software systems into different local languages. This will include adaptation of the software to cultural preferences, such as the type of decimal separator, the text direction (left-to-right or right-to-left), and the format of the ZIP code or the dialog layout. The project is dealing with translation of computer glossary into local languages that will then be used by different software developing companies to ensure wide access to software, databases and online content to the people in Afghanistan. The project will also undertake the development of collation sequence, locale, normalization and sorting, find-replace, fonts, spell checker, thesaurus and other related software components.

PAN Localization:

PAN L10n is a three years partnership of the International Development Research Program (IDRC), Canada, through its Pan Asia Networking (PAN) Program and National University of Computer and Emerging Sciences (NUCES), Pakistan, through its Centre for Research in Urdu Language Processing (CRULP) in a South and South-East Asia wide initiative to build capacity in regional institutions for local language computing.

The scope of the PAN Localization technology research includes development of character set, collation and other language standards, fonts, lexica, spell checkers, grammar checkers, search and replace utilities, speech recognition systems, text-to-speech synthesis, machine translation.

The Project will assess both Linux and Microsoft platforms for these specific application developments. Different aspects of localization technology will be addressed, including linguistic standardization, computing applications, development platforms, content publishing and access, and effective marketing and dissemination and intellectual property right strategies of the output products.

As the PAN Localization Project will research into problems and solutions for local language computing across Asia for development, it is designed to sample the cultural and linguistic diversity in

the whole region. The spread of the research will be carried out by the various countries at strategically different research entry points along the research spectrum, with each country conducting research that is critical in terms of the applications that need to be delivered to the country's user market.

The countries (and languages) included in the Project are Afghanistan (Pashto), Bangladesh (Bangla), Bhutan (Dzongkha), Cambodia (Khmer), Laos (Lao), Nepal (Nepali) and Sri Lanka (Sinhala, Tamil).

Organizational relationships:

The Programmer/Developer will be answerable to will be answerable to the Project Lead PAN Localization Afghanistan, with tasks to be undertaken with relevant implementing partners, project staff and primary stakeholder groups to enable a learning process, ensure inclusive decision making with respect to software architecture and development and maximize transparency and accountability. And will work under the supervision and guidance of the Senior Software Engineer. The candidate has to work closely with other technical staff members of the ALP to provide a concrete required output of the project.

Required Skills and Experience:

- The candidate must have the ability to work in a team environment, support the development team, and be able to guide and assist co-developers when needed.
- Have advanced technical skills, including a strong knowledge of data structures (such as stacks, arrays, hashes, etc.) object-oriented programming with C/C++, Low-Level system programming, ASCII characters and its usage in programming, and should have a good understanding of all aspects of systems development from analysis, design, code, and testing.
- Have sufficient knowledge of keyboard, mouse and other hardware specifications and technical characteristics.
- Have worked in Win32 API (Application Programming Interface) (COM is considered as an advantage). Be able to work with shell and scripting language such as Python, TCL, or Perl. Have experience of using Microsoft Visio and Rational Rose tools.
- Have entire understanding of the Microsoft and Open Source Operating Systems and Office application and feel comfortable with working in Microsoft Operating Systems development plate form.
- The programmer/developer must have the ability to learn new programming languages and required tools during the ongoing work period.

Qualifications:

Holding a bachelor's degree in Computer Science or other technical degree is prioritized, other degrees with 1+ year of experience in a software development environment is required.

Demonstrated ability to serve as an effective contributor on mid to large scale development projects.

Bear effective communication skills and the ability to interact professionally with diverse group of clients and staff.

Have experience and ability to teach or instruct others (including persons who do not have a technical background)

Good command on Pashto and English languages is required.

The deadline for applications is 20 January 2005

Applicants who are qualified for this post are requested to submit their applications [CV, cover letter and recent photograph (optional)] to:

**Afghanistan Localization Program, Afghan Computer Science Association,
13rd Floor, Ministry of Communications, Kabul**

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