

By Invitation

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Career Move

The prospect of making a major career move can be very exciting. However, the reality is that successfully completing a career transition, especially for an executive position, can be a time-consuming, and complicated process. Therefore, it is in your best interest to develop an action plan to assist you in properly managing your job hunt.

Action plans will naturally be as varied as the people who create them. However, the following four elements should be critical elements of any effective action plan.

BEGIN WITH THE WHY

Many individuals know that they hate or have outgrown their current role. Many of these people, however, don't dig much deeper that.

You need to be clear on the why you really want to leave your current post before you just start steamrolling your way toward something new. Consider this: you may very well end up in a different position, but one that you will still be unsatisfied with. What's the point of undergoing all of this effort if you find yourself in the same situation?

Think about these essential questions: Why do I want this? Why do I think this new professional role will make my life more satisfying? What might be the downsides or risks involved in a professional switch? By going through this exercise, you realize that things actually might not be as bad in your present situation. This process may also lead you to realize that the job hunting path will become even more appealing and make you push harder to achieve your goals.

DEFINE YOUR OBJECTIVES

Before beginning any plan, it is critical to know what you are planning for. What's your principle goal? Is there a particular position you are aiming to acquire? Is there a certain company you want to work for? Is there a timeline that must be adhered to? Have these objectives clearly focused and understood; perhaps even write these down to use as a constant reminder of what you are trying to achieve.

DEFINE MILESTONES

Once you have defined what your endgame is, it is important to set milestones that will guide you toward achieving your goal. These milestones may include brushing up on particular skills before you apply for positions and networking with key influencers/individuals. Other milestones that deserve more consideration during this process include having personal affairs in order to prepare for any career shift- which may include an eventual relocation.

PERFORM DAILY TASKS

Plan to structure your daily routine so that you can take incremental steps towards your goal. This may be as simple as getting up thirty minutes earlier each day so you have more time to check job listings and reach out to connections. You can also assign yourself tasks such as researching what companies in your industry are looking for in qualified candidates, or emailing friends and former colleagues to schedule more personal networking meetings, such as working lunches or evening cocktails.

Whatever individual tasks you aim to complete, be sure to take the time to continuously review your milestones and assess your progress and the issues that may be holding you back. Use this self-assessment to modify your routine and keep refining your action plan.

As you complete each of these smaller daily tasks, you will sure to notice how small steps can come together to have a snowball effect on your job hunt. Each small victory will increasingly give you both momentum and confidence, enabling your prospects of professional success to become a very real possibility.

(The views and opinions expressed in this article are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the policy or position of this newspaper.)

Govt to generate 5pc of energy from renewable sources

UoB Water and energy conference, exhibition opens



Electricity Minister Dr. Abdulhussain Mirza inaugurating the water and energy conference organised by University of Bahrain

DT News Network Manama

Electricity and Water Affairs Minister Dr. Abdulhussain Mirza yesterday said that the government had set specific targets to achieve generation of renewable energy, with five per cent of energy use being renewable by 2025 and 10 per cent by 2035 as well as a goal to increase energy efficiency.

Opening the conference and exhibition on water and energy organised by the University of Bahrain (UoB) in cooperation with the Universities of Lafra, Oxford and Aston in the United Kingdom yesterday, Dr. Mirza discussed strategic steps Bahrain had taken in the water issues, its unified water strategy and renewable energy projects for sustainable development.

British Ambassador to Bahrain, the United Nations Resident Coordinator, the presidents of participating universities and a large number of senior officials, academics were among the 200 guests participating in the conference.

Dr. Mirza spoke about the concerns of His Majesty the King, His Royal Highness the Prime Minister and His Royal Highness the Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Prime Minister, on the issue of water and renewable energy.

He said Bahrain had set up the Water Resources Council under the chairmanship of the Deputy Prime Minister Sheakh Khalid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa. This had several ministers as members who pledged to work at the highest levels in terms of sustainability of water resources.

The minister said this is due to the concern of His Majesty and Their Highness the leaders of the Gulf Cooperation Council countries to develop a unified water strategy until 2035. He said the strategy aims at addressing the problem of water scarcity in the region and seeks to provide safe and sustainable water resources in the long term.

Dr. Mirza also spoke about renewable energy projects in Bahrain, where the Government was seeking to invest in renewable and sustainable energy, one of the priorities of the environment and urban development in the programme of work.

The minister reviewed the construction of a 100-mw solar power plant in partnership with the private sector. He mentioned that one of the important steps taken by the government in this endeavor is the establishment of the sustainable energy unit in 2014 in cooperation with the United Nations Development Programme.

The minister spoke of the setting up of the National renewable Energy Plan and the National Energy Efficiency Plan. He said the Cabinet also approved in January this year the introduction of the Net Metering system, which allows individuals and institutions to

install and use solar energy in their homes and facilities.

He said the launch of the first five solar homes and linking them to the government grid of electricity in March this year was a significant step, as was the launch of the first wind Atlas in Bahrain, which is a map showing scientifically the proportion of wind availability in different regions to operate turbines that generate clean energy and produce electricity from the wind. The minister thanked the organizers, the speakers and participants.

President of the University of Bahrain Professor Riad Hamza thanked the minister for patronizing the conference.

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