

Achille, regional manager, business development and projects management in AKUO

“It’s the best possible choice for working in renewable energy. Intellectually, there are very fulfilling jobs with a lot of responsibility in a highly dynamic environment with plenty of young people. I think that, for this job, an engineering background is definitely an advantage, but it’s not an unsurmountable hurdle if you have a different background; you’ll just need to take the time to properly grasp the fundamentals of electricity production from solar panels or wind turbines. There are people from a broad variety of backgrounds within the team. Obviously, most of them are engineers, but some come from other educational paths, and that enables them to bring skills they’ve developed through their training, as well human relations, which are very important.

What makes a genuine difference at Akuo is the entrepreneurial DNA, which means that during the projects we work on we are entrusted with a broad range of different tasks that don’t necessarily correspond to our educational profiles, thus enabling us to learn a great deal.

Another point is the responsibilities that we can rapidly be entrusted with in terms of team management, whatever your age or experience. That enables you to be much sought-after and to learn a lot very fast.

This is my third job at Akuo, as I started out as a business developer for just over a year, then I spent a year working in business development in the North of France and now I’m fully responsible for this Northern France region. And then there’s a key stage that involves discussions with the senior management team for France to inform them of the progress made by each of our projects, discuss the various strategies we’re implementing and enable information to be shared on a countrywide scale.

Work is never routine in this job. That makes it interesting too – your tasks change fairly regularly. The trips you take are different each time because every project is atypical, in terms of both the people you meet and the technology that needs to be put in place. There are a lot of innovations that we’ve tested in France, such as floating solar and agrivoltaics, and going to test them abroad allows you to potentially discover new opportunities to continue improving them and stay ahead of the game, something Akuo is good at.”