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VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Nature Based Solutions (NbS) Officer, Climate Adaptation and Protected Areas (CAPA) Initiative

Want to make a positive difference to the future of people and our one shared home, the Earth? Working at WWF could be your opportunity of a lifetime.
All around the world, people are waking up to the deepening crisis of nature loss. A growing realization that nature is our life support system. And that nobody will be spared from the impacts of its loss. Here at WWF, we are helping to tackle this enormous global challenge. Our people come from hugely diverse backgrounds and with a variety of expertise, ranging from HR and finance to advocacy and conservation science. We welcome applications from anyone who believes they can help us create a better future for people and wildlife.

What we do: We are an independent conservation organization, striving to sustain the natural world for the benefit of people and wildlife. From individuals and communities to business and government, we are part of a growing coalition calling on world leaders to set nature on the path to recovery by 2030. Together, we seek to protect and restore natural habitats, stop the mass extinction of wildlife, and make the way we produce and consume sustainable.

We are looking for a dynamic, enthusiastic and highly qualified person to fill the position of **Nature Based Solutions (NbS) Officer**

Type of Contract – Fixed term

Location: - Kasese, with frequent travel in the GVL

Reporting: Project Manager, CAPA Initiative

Project Summary

World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) Uganda Country Office (WWF UCO) in partnership with the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) is implementing the Climate Adaptation and Protected Areas (CAPA) initiative which seeks to promote natural solutions to strengthening climate resilience and protecting biodiversity in three key protected areas in Uganda: Rwenzori Mountains National Park, Queen Elizabeth National Park and Bwindi Impenetrable National Park. The project is funded by Global Affairs Canada (GAC).

This project is part of a wider global effort to be implemented in five selected sites covering marine, coastal and terrestrial ecosystems in the Caribbean, sub-Saharan Africa and Asia- Pacific regions, specifically in Fiji and Belize, Greater Virunga Landscape (Uganda) and Kavango Zambezi Landscape (Zambia, Zimbabwe, Namibia and Angola). The project emphasizes the participation of women and marginalized groups in developing climate-resilient management of PAs and their surrounding communities using Nature Based Climate Solutions (NBCS) approach. The underlying theory of change is that the implementation of gender-responsive NBCS interventions and integration of NBCS into PA management will strengthen the resilience of ecosystems, biodiversity and communities to the impacts of climate change, while giving voice and agency to all stakeholders.

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Job Summary

The NbS Officer will lead the development and implementation of site level Climate Adaptation NbS interventions for the CAPA Initiative. The primary target is the following Protected Areas in the GVL: Bwindi Impenetrable National Park (BINP), Queen Elizabeth National Park (QENP) and Rwenzori Mountains National Park (RMNP). The project will be implemented over a 3-year period with an initial inception period of 3 months. The NbS Officer will lead the initiation and implementation of NbS interventions that fulfill the NbS criteria for Climate Adaptation. This may include implementation of restoration interventions through soil and water conservation, agroforestry, assisted or natural regeneration, NbS livelihoods etc.

Responsibilities

The specific responsibilities of the NbS Officer include but are not limited to the following;

- Assess and recommend NbS interventions for climate resilience and adaptation in and or around the proposed PA sites;
- Ensure participatory development and implementation of Climate Adaptation NbS interventions in or around selected PAs including but not limited to Agroforestry, natural/assisted restoration, soil and water conservation, among others;
- Support project partners and consultants to ensure timely implementation of site level NbS interventions and activities;
- Promote People (Farm) Integrated Planning approach to increase adoption of gender sensitive Nature Based Climate Adaptation and nature-based livelihoods;
- In collaboration with the Climate Change and NbS Manager, support the development of climate change mitigation and adaptation capacity strengthening initiatives for PA authorities, local governments, Community Led Organizations and other stakeholders;
- Ensure strong relationships with environmental and development NGOs in and around target PAs in the GVL including government Ministries, Departments and Agencies, and share latest thinking on adaptation practices and lessons learned;
- Interact with IISD, WWF nature-based solution (NbS) network and the WWF energy and climate practice to bring in global perspectives to the national and site level context;
- Support the development of funding opportunities for the climate change and NbS work as part of a wider GVL Strategy;
- Monitor and evaluate climate change adaptation interventions with national and local stakeholders in the GVL in line with the WWF standards and guidelines;
- Ensure the development of tools for data collection, monitoring and reporting in close collaboration with the M&E officer;
- Contribute to the project monitoring, evaluation, learning and reporting in compliance with donor requirements.

Required Qualifications/experience

- A Bachelor's Degree in forestry; environmental studies, climate change studies; sustainable land use planning and management or a related field. A post graduate qualification in ecosystem—based management, climate change and development, forestry and natural resource management and/or nature—based/green value will be an added advantage;

- At least 3-5 years of work experience in a field related to Natural Resource management, climate change, ecosystem-based adaptation, green and nature—based enterprises, and other related fields;
- Proven practical experiences in nature-based ecosystem-based management and restoration such as agroforestry, restoration, farmer management natural regeneration etc;
- Familiarity with social and environmental safeguarding framework;
- Demonstrated ability to undertake baselines, field-based data collection and monitoring methods;
- Knowledge of relevant computer applications, softwares and team working platforms such as MS Teams, SharePoint, Zoom, Google Docs etc.
- Experience working in a fast-paced, multi-project environment
- Fluency in English and at least one other major language spoken in the GVL (e.g. Runyakitara)

Required Skills and Competencies

A team player with strong inter-personal skills demonstrated by the ability to work in a multicultural, multi-ethnic environment with sensitivity and respect for diversity. Strong ability to establish prioritize, work within tight timelines and multi-task. Able to work under minimal supervision with high level of resilience and strong oral and written communication skills in English. Identifies and aligns with the core values of WWF: Courage, Integrity, Respect & Collaboration.

How to apply?

Email an application cover letter, Curriculum Vitae and contact details of three (3) referees plus copies of academic qualifications (sent as one PDF document) clearly indicating "NbS Officer, CAPA Initiative" in the subject line to: recruitment@wwfuganda.org

Kindly note that only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

Deadline for applications: Tuesday June 20th, 2023

WWF is an equal opportunity employer and is committed to having a diverse workforce