
International Environmental Education Development Officer

Grade: 8

Directorate: Conservation

Location: Slimbridge (HQ)

Reporting to: Head of Conservation & Development

Main function of post: To develop and trial wetland environmental education material for WWT's overseas conservation and development programmes. A key focus of the role will be to work with a cross-section of WWT departments, along with other external stakeholders, to generate a broad set of customisable workshops to address major wetland threats. A toolkit will also be produced to help conservation managers adapt content to become locally relevant and account for differences in cultures and attitudes to learning and the environment.

Supervisory responsibilities: None

Hours worked: 37½ hours per week

Working pattern: Monday-Friday with flexibility required during fieldwork

Six month fixed-term contract

Main duties of the post

1. Work with other WWT staff to identify priority themes for a wetland environmental education course, highlighting realistic short and long-term learning outcomes.
2. Review the existing openly-accessible material available to wetland environmental educators and identify key gaps, specifically in relation to target age groups, biodiversity threats, ecosystem services and sustainable development opportunities.
3. Produce an easily accessible series of fun and interactive workshops for schools in communities surrounding wetlands.

4. Create lesson plans, design supplementary material and a develop a manual for teachers and environmental education coordinators.
5. Liaise with members of Wetland Link International and the Ramsar's Cultural Network and CEPA programme to ensure WWT's course has the widest possible application within the international wetland community.
6. Develop a toolkit to ensure coordinators from all around the world can easily adapt course content with relevant examples, addressing the direct local threats to wetland conservation.
7. Work with partners in Madagascar to organise a trial of the course in schools around WWT conservation sites in the country.
8. Visit Madagascar to train local partners in course delivery and coordinate the first full environmental education programme.
9. Draft a short report on return from Madagascar, highlighting the successes, limitations, and future priorities for WWT's international wetland environmental education course.

In addition to the duties and responsibilities listed, the post holder is required to perform any other reasonable duties that may be assigned by the supervisor shown above, from time to time.

Date raised: 16/02/16

Amended:

Person Specification

1. Qualifications

Essential:

- MSc in conservation, environmental education, or other relevant subject. Equivalent experience will be considered for exceptional candidates

Desirable:

- Teaching qualification

2. Experience

Essential:

- Experience developing training material for school groups, preferably in a developing world context
- Coordination of environmental education programmes a rural developing world setting
- Knowledge and experience of wetland ecosystem services and the link between healthy wetlands and healthy people
- Ability to interact with, and inspire, children from a wide range of cultures and differing educational backgrounds and abilities
- Liaising with external organisational stakeholders

Desirable:

- Work in Africa, ideally Madagascar
- Experience working around wetlands

3. Managerial & Supervisory

Essential:

- Ability to manage ongoing partnerships and coordinate and supervise large groups of students

4. Responsibility

Essential:

- To use initiative and take responsibility for the delivery of course content
- Excellent organisational skills and ability to work independently, setting work plans and meeting ongoing targets and deadlines

5. Creative Ability

Essential:

- Ability to research, collate and review openly accessible online material to identify areas where WWT can make the greatest possible contribution to wetland environmental education
- Excellent oral and written communication skills and the ability to adjust style and content for different audiences
- Diplomatic skills to maintain strong working relationships with multiple stakeholders
- Cultural sensitivity and awareness

6. Contact

Essential:

- Excellent partnership liaison skills and an ability to build new professional relationships with individuals and organisations.
- Affinity for working with children and interacting with other members of local communities.
- Ability to create dynamic learning environments for large groups of students with access to limited resources

Desirable:

- An established network within the environmental education sector
- International conservation contacts

General Notes

This is a full-time position based at our headquarters at Slimbridge, which may from time to time require work during some evenings, weekends and public holidays to meet the needs of the post. It will also require the flexibility associated with a post that involves travel overseas and work in developing countries for extensive periods.

This is a six month fixed-term position.