



for a living planet[®]

Job description

Position title: Policy Officer or Senior Policy Officer¹, Climate and Energy 'Just Transition'
Reports to: Head of Unit, EU Climate and Energy Policy
Supervises: External consultants
Date: November 2022

I. Mission

The WWF European Policy Office (WWF EPO) is a major WWF policy and public affairs hub, and acts as WWF's embassy to the EU institutions. Our goal is to support the achievement of WWF's global mission by helping shape EU policies that affect the environment.

WWF EPO's climate and energy team works to ensure that EU policies are consistent with the goals of the Paris Agreement, including equity, and the protection of the ecosystems on which human flourishing depends.

II. Role

The successful candidate will be responsible for leading WWF's EU climate and energy advocacy on the 'just transition', including fairness in the transition to a decarbonised energy system and other issues that cut across climate and social justice objectives. The scale and pace of the changes needed in the power sector, in the energy system more generally, and in the broader economy, combined with the need to ensure that nobody in society is left behind, make this a crucial part of the overall climate challenge.

The job will involve advocacy towards EU institutions, supporting the WWF EU network of national offices, working within civil society coalitions such as the European Alliance for Just Transition and the Europe Beyond Coal network, and sharing experience internationally in support of WWF efforts to develop a framework for just energy transformation globally.

The successful candidate will be at the forefront of developing norms and frameworks for a just transition to climate neutrality across the EU, for example as a member of the EU Just Transition Platform and by contributing to thought leadership and advocacy on the achievement of social and climate goals in EU policies and structures.

This job description covers the main tasks involved in the role and conveys the spirit of others that the post holder might be required to carry out in future. Additional tasks may be assigned as necessary on the basis of future policy developments and organisational needs.

III. Main responsibilities

Objectives

The post holder will develop, coordinate and implement WWF's EU advocacy in this area with the aim of ensuring that:

- **Just transition goals, principles and support are integrated into EU policies beyond funds dedicated to 'just transition'**. This means for example working to ensure that:

¹ Title will depend on various factors including experience

- Provisions for inclusive participation of partners in the development of local-level just transition plans are strengthened, and support for local-level leadership in the transition is enhanced.
- Just transition frameworks and policies align with - and recognise the imperative of - keeping global temperature rise below 1.5, delivering for both people and nature by protecting and enhancing biodiversity.
- **The EU develops and implements policies that support a long-term and overall ‘Just Energy Transformation’, unlocking and maximising the synergies between social and climate goals:**
 - The new Social Climate Fund and subsequent social climate plans support transformative change that delivers on both social and environmental goals - combatting perceived conflict between the two.
 - NECPs reflect social fairness considerations and strategies to boost the delivery of society-wide just transitions at territorial, regional, national and European levels.
- **WWF is an active contributor to and leader of coalitions of civil society working for a just transition**, reaching beyond the traditional environmental networks and working with all voices committed to the environment and to social fairness.
 - Coalitions of civil society and social partners that WWF engages with recognise and demand that just transitions must protect biodiversity and align with limiting global average temperature rise to below 1.5 degrees.
 - WWF’s EU network is aware of just transition policy developments at EU-level and their potential impacts, and is enabled to work proactively with stakeholders at national level on just transition issues.
 - WWF EPO contributes as appropriate to just transition work and the emerging Just Energy Transformation workstream within the WWF international network.

Activities

- Engaging with and lobbying politicians, EU officials and other decision makers, businesses and other stakeholders based in Brussels, both online and in person.
- Analysis of EU policy proposals (insofar as they concern a just and socially fair transition to climate neutrality), Member State and stakeholder positions, and proposed amendments to EU legislation, and development of advocacy strategies;
- Production of written advocacy materials such as briefings, reports etc. to publication standard;
- Keeping up to date with scientific / academic publications, evidence, debate and emerging narratives concerning just transition/ just (energy) transformation in academia and across partner organisations.
- Briefing Brussels-based journalists, including at press conferences, and helping the WWF communications team develop compelling narratives, press releases, infographics, social media content and other messaging;
- Representing WWF at public events, conferences and meetings with representatives of European institutions, EU Member States or other stakeholders;
- Coordinating advocacy on EU policies across the WWF network, through sharing of information, building consensus on key issues, and providing guidance, knowledge leadership and advocacy materials, including supporting capacity building under the WWF-led ‘Forum of Mayors for Just Transition’;
- Building strong working relationships with WWF EPO colleagues in other teams, including those working on issues closely linked to climate change such as sustainable finance, land use or oceans;
- Closely collaborating with other environmental NGOs and civil society organisations that are based in Brussels or that are active on EU policy dossiers;

- Actively engaging in alliances and coalitions for just transition, including the European Alliance for Just Transition and the Europe Beyond Coal just transition working group, as well as advancing and helping to broaden such networks where relevant;
- Advancing and contributing to thought-leadership on EU just transition policies and frameworks to identify synergies between social and climate goals, including through work with coalitions and through partnerships with other organisations.
- Representing WWF as a member of the first circle at, and contributing to the work of, the EU Just Transition Platform Horizontal Stakeholder Strategy working group, including through supporting the delivery of the implementation plan (survey development, dissemination and analysis; facilitation of exchange and collation of best practice for just transition communication);

IV. Required knowledge, skills and experience

- Confidence in interacting with high level EU and national policymakers and civil society and industry professionals;
- Ability to see the big picture, understand divergent points of view and identify ways to unite progressive goals;
- Strong networking, communication and team building skills, particularly for uniting and communicating to groups with divergent areas of focus/interests.
- Excellent communication skills in English, both in writing and orally (e.g. in meetings and presentations). An ability to listen attentively to the views of interlocutors, understand political priorities, and convey messages on complex subjects clearly and persuasively. Other languages an advantage;
- Strong analytical and evidence-interpretation skills, including an ability to draw out key points from technical sources and identify the broader implications of different policy options;
- At least 3-5 years' professional work experience directly relevant to the role, ideally including advocacy towards (or work within) EU institutions and/or Member State governments and experience of working with the EU legislative process;
- Knowledge of the subject matter and/or academic studies or qualifications on the relevant topics an advantage;
- An ability to work effectively in a multicultural and multidisciplinary environment, both independently and as a supportive team player;
- Willingness to undertake occasional work-related travel for a period of no more than 1 week at a time (usually much less) would be helpful;
- Understanding of the delivery of EU cohesion policy or the implementation of partnership principles an advantage;
- A firm commitment to WWF's mission ("to stop the degradation of the earth's natural environment and to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature") and its values ("courage, integrity, respect, collaboration").

V. Working Relationships

Internal

WWF EPO Head of Unit, Climate and Energy; WWF EPO Climate and Energy Team; other WWF EPO colleagues; colleagues in WWF EU national offices, the WWF Global Climate and Energy Practice.

External

European Commission staff (up to Director level, senior official level and junior political level), Members of the European Parliament and their teams, officials in Member State Permanent Representations to the EU, journalists, representatives of foundations, businesses, think tanks, other environmental NGOs or civil society organisations (such as Europe Beyond Coal and European Alliance for Just Transition) etc.

Approved by Director: _____

Date: _____

Accepted by Staff member: _____

Date: _____