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JOB DESCRIPTION

Position title: Seafood Policy Officer

Reports to: Head of Ocean Policy

Grade: C

Date: February 2021

I. Mission of the Department:

The WWF European Policy Office (EPO) functions as a major policy and public affairs hub of the WWF network and works to achieve WWF's global mission by leading the WWF network to shape EU policies impacting on the European and global environment.

The Ocean Team ensures that there is a coordinated approach across the WWF European network to effectively influence and implement EU ocean policies including the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP), Illegal, Unregulated and Unreported Fishing (IUU) Regulation, Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD), Maritime Spatial Planning Directive (MSP), International Ocean Governance and SDG 14 agenda. It ensures that Europe's seas and priority footprint areas are productive and resilient and become global flagships for sustainable, equitable, and innovative ocean governance and use.

II. Major Functions:

This position will play a key role in delivering WWF's European sustainable seafood sourcing, (from EU member states and third countries). S/he acts as a Brussels-based policy advocate vis-à-vis relevant European Union (EU) and European Commission (EC) institutions and helps represent WWF to external audiences and within WWF's network. S/he helps coordinate the related activities of WWF offices in EU Member States and provides a vital liaison between WWF activities promoting sustainable and legal seafood sourcing and better governance to reduce the impacts of climate change on global fisheries entering the EU market.

The role will perform four cross-cutting functions:

- a. S/he acts as the Brussels-based policy lead on trade and control of fish products issues, designing and leading the coordinated delivery of the EU-wide policy work on sustainable seafood, in close coordination with other Brussels based NGOs.
- b. S/he plays a key role representing WWF on the Market Advisory Council and coordinates strategic WWF network engagement on seafood across the different ACs.
- c. S/he acts as Brussels-based liaison officer with the EU seafood associations, promoting positive dialogues and alignment, wherever possible, of policy and market advocacy priorities
- d. Provides best practice sustainable seafood sourcing and traceability expertise to the WWF European network and beyond, linking to WWF's work on illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing work).

III. Major Duties and Responsibilities:

Policy and Advocacy:

- Develop WWF's EU-level policy advocacy priorities and strategy vis-à-vis sustainable seafood sourcing, seafood traceability & labeling, certifications schemes and other relevant seafood market issues and topics;
- Develop and deliver on NGOs coalition projects' deliverables in close coordination with WWF networks;
- Maintain professional knowledge and keep abreast of emerging issues in the Market Advisory Council (MAC), in particular issues surrounding the implementation of seafood traceability requirements under the Control Regulation, the Common Organisation of the Markets (CMO), and related regulations and instruments;
- Participate and represent WWF in the MAC Working Groups, General Assembly and the Executive Committee meetings, and influence papers and advice put forward by the MAC.
- Build positive relationships, and wherever possible, alliances with key influential seafood associations in Brussels (e.g. processors and importers, retailers, chefs), driving towards common policy advocacy priorities and joint advocacy activities;
- Help represent WWF in relevant fora and with relevant stakeholders to promote sustainable seafood sourcing and seafood traceability best practices to achieve concrete gains for WWF's marine conservation agenda;
- Contribute to the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) advocacy work with a focus on traceability and control issues;
- Perform other duties as requested.

Network Coordination:

- Collaborate with other members of the WWF ocean team (EPO) in liaising with the European Commission, European Parliament and the Presidencies of the Council on issues relevant to sustainable seafood sourcing and seafood traceability;
- Closely liaise with WWF National Offices in Europe and beyond (such as WWF US), particularly those working on traceability issues, to carry out actions, and create synergies;
- Work in close consultation with other programme staff inside and outside EPO to identify policies and enabling conditions to achieve WWF ocean goals and the European Policy Plan such as the Farm to Fork Strategy as well as the upcoming Ocean Action Plan.
- Ensure compliance to standards, both internal and external, for all projects and conservation activities;
- Carry out activities within budget.

IV. Profile:

Required qualification

- Degree or advanced technical qualifications relevant to the field of fisheries management, seafood supply chain management, fisheries monitoring, control, and surveillance, and/or trade in fish products;

- At least 5 years of relevant professional experience in sustainable seafood sourcing practices, seafood supply chain management, seafood traceability, fisheries policy and/or fisheries management;
- Ability to interact with high level government and seafood industry professionals;
- Knowledge of European institutions, lobby and advocacy experience.

Required skills and competencies

- Ability to interpret and analyse scientific and technical documents and data and apply it to WWF’s work;
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills in English, and an ability to communicate complicated messages authoritatively and clearly to different audiences including through written materials, one-to-one meetings and presentations. Other languages are an advantage;
- Strong networking and team building skills appropriate for a multicultural and multidisciplinary environment;
- Proven ability to act as organizational spokesperson and interact effectively with government representatives; significant experience interacting with seafood and fishing industry;
- Experience of working on, and understanding the complexities of EU legislation;
- Adheres to WWF’s values, which are: Courage, Integrity, Respect and Collaboration.

V. Working Relationships:

Internal

This post is located in Brussels and reports to Head of Ocean Policy. Working closely and maintaining regular contact with WWF European offices and EPO’s (policy) staff, is of importance.

External

Staff (up to senior technical levels and junior political levels) in EC DGs (esp. DG-Mare), Market Advisory Council members, fisheries and seafood industry actors, public and private institutions relevant to sustainable seafood sourcing, civil society organisations and platforms, think tanks, media, foundations, etc..

This job description covers the main tasks and conveys the spirit of the sort of tasks that are anticipated proactively from staff. Other tasks may be assigned as necessary according to organizational needs.

Approved by Director: _____

Date: _____

Accepted by staff member _____

Date: _____