



Program Officer – “Land Degradation Neutrality” Starting as soon as possible

Together possible.

For more than half a century, WWF has been working over 100 countries to protect the world's species and natural ecosystems, pushing for a more sustainable world. By working with local communities, governments, businesses, and other NGOs, WWF is defining new ways of working that will make a difference at a relevant scale, to help redefine humanity's relationship with the planet. Through numerous initiatives, priority areas and priority species, the entire WWF global network is focused on six major goals – forests, oceans, wildlife, food, climate & energy, and freshwater – and three key drivers of environmental problems – markets, finance and governance. The position is based at WWF France (220 000 donors, 3 000 volunteers, 100 employees, budget of 24m€, 5 sites)

Working at WWF means enjoying our luminous and environmentally friendly building, designed to enable exchanges and individual concentration. Our organizational project promotes initiatives: rooftop garden, bike mileage allowance, composter, “zen” room, equipped lunch room, hosting of partner associations.

WWF France is recruiting a 3-year contract, within the Programs Department, to act as a Program Officer to assist WWF Network and the LDN fund manager with projects related to “Land Degradation Neutrality”.

Responsibilities:

The Land Degradation Neutrality Fund (LDN Fund) was initiated by the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) as one of the solutions to change the scope of the Finance sector in favor of climate oriented actions that will trigger public engagement and leverage private investments. Considered to be a tangible and innovative initiative, the LDN Fund was launched during the One Planet Summit in 2017 and is a pivotal tool for the restoration of millions of hectares of degraded land for agricultural or forestry purposes.

Working in close cooperation with the fund manager, the UNCCD and the WWF network, the program officer “Land Degradation Neutrality” will be in charge of coordinating WWF action in favor of land restoration.

Within WWF France's Program Management unit, under the “Food and Agriculture” team and working closely with the “International development” and “Green financing” teams, as well as the Corporate partnerships unit, the program officer will help identify and design eligible degraded lands restoration projects in cooperation with WWF international network and public and private partners. In addition, he/she will be the contact point for the LDN Fund manager.

Main missions:

- Coordination/Network: Connect with WWF network and engage WWF's partners (private sector, agencies and development banks) to promote LDN activities.
 - Project identification, assessment and screening: Assist offices and practices that are part of the WWF international network in identifying potential land restoration projects (technical feasibility, assess their financial viability, involvement of civil society and local partners (institutions and private sector) as well as ownership by the UNCCD Member States)
- Environmental and social aspects: work closely on ESG criteria of eligible projects and contribute to the development of ESG policies
- Advocacy: Promote land restoration projects and tools within the global political agenda for a global deal for Nature in 2020.

Private sector commitment: in cooperation with other departments from WWF France, in particular the Corporate Partnerships department and other WWF network offices, promote the involvement of new private partners, particularly financial institutions and french and foreign companies having interest in restoring degraded lands via their supply chain (e.g. to meet their zero deforestation/conversion objectives).

Skills and qualifications:

- Master's degree in agriculture or forestry, or related discipline, with experience in finance
- Experience applying, measuring and reporting environmental and social standards (e.g. IFC Performance Standards, etc.)
- Excellent knowledge of challenges pertaining to agricultural production and specifically to the restoration of degraded lands for agricultural or forestry purposes
- Successful experience in designing and financing large-scale international projects (tens of millions of euros), preferably in conjunction with private donors (e.g.: REDD+ projects), and in the fields of sustainable forest management and sustainable agriculture

- Experience (or very good knowledge) in sustainable impact and investment Fund mechanisms and project preparation stages
- Proven political skills and ability to work with stakeholders having conflicting interests
- Demonstrated leadership, persuasive and diplomatic skills
- You are autonomous, source of proposals and driven to hold a challenging position with international stakes
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills in English ; French or any other language considered an asset

Conditions of the position:

- **Starting as soon as possible**
- **Office location : WWF France in Pré-Saint-Gervais, Paris area, France**
- **Salary based on experience and qualifications**

| Thank you for sending your application and cover letter to fr.recrutement@wwf.fr with the reference «**LDNF 2018**».