



**POSITION:** Global Advocacy & Communication Officer

**REPORTING TO:** Partnership Manager

**REMUNERATION:** Negotiable

**LOCATION:** Cape Town, South Africa

**START DATE:** ASAP



## **Background**

Slum Dwellers International (SDI) is an unparalleled women-led grassroots slum dweller movement with over 25 years of experience organizing urban poor communities across the world. We amplify the voice, agency and influence of the world's 1 billion slum dwellers to improve their lives and make the cities and human settlements they reside in inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable. SDI is organised as an international network currently made up of 22 national slum dweller federations (of which 19 are in Africa) each counting their members in the tens or even hundreds of thousands of individual slum dwellers.

SDI's holistic approach to meaningfully improving the lives of slum dwellers is anchored by our four 'rituals': daily savings; community-led slum profiling and mapping; peer-to-peer learning; and partnership with (local) government. Our members measure the results of SDI in the form of improved tenure security; upgraded slum settlements with adequate housing adapted to a changing climate; access to basic services for all community members; enhanced economic livelihoods; improved health and safety; and the participation of slum dwellers in the decision-making that affects them (e.g. city management, urban planning, development programmes, climate adaptation programming etc.)

SDI stands out as a unique player in the urban development ecosystem because of its unwavering dedication to community-led development and the amplification of the voices of the urban poor from the local to the global level.

## **About the Role**

The SDI Secretariat wishes to recruit a Global Advocacy and Communication Officer (senior officer level position). This is an exciting and challenging position, with the responsibility to support and capacitate the elected leadership of the SDI network to effectively and purposefully engage in global debates and knowledge creation informing urban policies, climate action and international development programmes relevant to SDI's field of work.

The main objectives of this position are to ensure *i)* that slum dwellers' perspectives (data, priorities, solutions) inform relevant global debates and knowledge creation, *ii)* that slum dwellers – and particularly SDI's elected leadership - are considered valued partners in global level decision-making on urban and development policy and climate action; and *iii)* that global agreements and policies actually translate into tangible action and investments at national and city level improving the lives of slum dwellers.

## About You

Slum Dwellers International (SDI) is looking for an experienced Global Advocacy & Communication Officer to drive our global influencing work for pro-poor urban policies, locally led climate action and a decolonized international development agenda.

## Key Responsibilities

As the SDI Secretariat as a whole, the role of the Global Advocacy and Communication Officer is supportive to the SDI network, its elected leadership and its national affiliates. The tasks include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Support the SDI network's formulation and continuous adaptation of a clear strategy for our influencing work. A strategy which defines clear goals (incl. policy 'asks' to specific stakeholders) and success indicators for the current SDI Strategic Plan period (until 2027).
- Coordinate and support SDI participation in key global events related to slum upgrading and housing, climate action, land rights and informality, SDG implementation (particularly SDG 11), etc.
- Support SDI's engagement in on-going debates and knowledge production with core partners (same issues as above) incl. coordination of SDI inputs to joint publications.
- Identify relevant outlets and lead - in close collaboration with national SDI affiliates - the drafting of content which communicates SDI perspectives, results, solutions, and methodologies to international stakeholders, positioning SDI as the 'go-to' organization for advancing the rights of the urban poor (e.g. SDI's annual report as well as blogs, articles, thematic newsletters, etc.).
- Curate and update SDI website content and manage service providers responsible for the technical maintenance and support of the website.
- Support national SDI affiliates to work with *and* hold relevant stakeholders directly accountable to the policies and principles they have signed on to at the global level.

## Qualifications and Experience

- Master's degree in development-related field, international relations, political science or similar.
- Minimum 5+ years' experience in political communication, influencing and advocacy work in the international development and/or climate sector.
- A 'sharp pen' and ability to communicate clearly in written English as well as ability to translate complex matters into simple and concise narratives.
- Good understanding of issues related to slum upgrading and housing, climate action, land rights and informality, SDG 11 etc and the international policy and knowledge architecture related to these issues.
- Skilled online communicator with the ability to use digital platforms to amplify key messages to relevant stakeholders.
- Experience working with and/or understanding of the SDI network is a plus.

## Job Requirements

- Excellent written English communication skills (French is an additional advantage).
- Cooperative, proactive and willing to go the extra mile when needed.
- Sound coordination and planning skills.
- Excellent computer skills (including typing). PowerPoint or other digital visualization skills are an asset.
- Be responsible and reliable.
- Able to work quickly and under pressure.

## Place of Work and Reporting Structure

We have a preference for the Global Advocacy and Communication Officer to be based with the SDI Secretariat in Cape Town. The SDI Secretariat provides programmatic and operational support to the global SDI Network incl. Coordination of SDI's internal governance, coordination and management of programming that cuts across our network, provision of technical support to SDI's national affiliates, coordination of international advocacy efforts and mobilization of resources through various institutional and private philanthropic donors. The Global Advocacy and Communication Officer will report to the Partnership Manager.

## How to Apply

Interested applicants should submit the following by e-mail to [vaneshree@ngorecruit.com](mailto:vaneshree@ngorecruit.com) quoting reference number: **NSD004**

- A CV (in Word or PDF format) of not more than 3 A4 pages
- A cover letter outlining how your experience and skills align with SDI's vision.

Application Deadline: **08 April 2024**

Interested applicants are encouraged to **apply ASAP**. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

For more about SDI, visit their [website](#) and social media pages: [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [LinkedIn](#).