



POSITION: Climate Finance Lobby and Advocacy Advisor

REPORTING TO: Dual Reporting Line

REMUNERATION: Competitive

LOCATION: Cape Town or Nairobi

START DATE: ASAP



Background on VCA

We are an alliance of 6 organisations: WWF NL, Hivos, SouthSouthNorth, Akina Mama wa Afrika, Slum Dwellers International (SDI), Fundación Avina, bring together global and local voices by connecting a diverse range of civil society organizations representing women, youth, Indigenous People, urban poor, digital activists and more. Together, we are implementing the Voices for Just Climate Action programme in 7 countries namely Bolivia, Brazil, Indonesia, Kenya, Paraguay, Tunisia and Zambia. Our strategic objective is to ensure that by 2025, local civil society groups have claimed a central role as empowered innovators, facilitators and advocates of climate solutions.

We aim to achieve this by building wide societal support for locally shaped climate solutions through an inclusive and rights-based approach. This includes building a broad-based climate justice/lobby and advocacy alliances at country level, bridging divides (urban-rural, gender, youth), and amplifying voices in new, unusual ways. In addition, we influence policies (national, global) and financial flows (climate finance, private sector investments) in support of these locally shaped solutions. The VCA secretariat is composed of a small but dynamic and multi-task team, responsible for strongly positioning the VCA, empowering the Alliance and providing strategic direction of the VCA program. Team spirit, empathy, mutual respect and trust are values at the core of our work with others, within the secretariat, governance and the wider network! The programme is funded by the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs under the “Power of Voices” framework.

About the Role

A central ambition of the program is to mobilize finance from diverse sources to scale locally-led solutions, by developing, piloting, and showcasing locally-led solutions as viable and effective responses to climate change. To this effect, we are currently seeking a Climate Finance Lobby and Advocacy Advisor with good knowledge on climate finance landscape; including climate finance policies and/or institutions at international, regional and national levels and has experience with strategies or mechanisms that enhance access to finance for locally led climate action. The post holder will contribute to our efforts to drive and shape climate finance policies that are crucial for climate action and sustainable development in the global south, as well as positioning of the VCA Alliance to maximise the opportunities to mobilise/leverage funding for scaling locally led climate action. This role involves engagement with UNFCCC processes and existing and emerging climate finance institutions, International Financial Institutions, and Multilateral Development Banks. It also entails

fostering CSO engagements and advocacy, project coordination, strategic communications and resource mobilization to support climate action initiatives. The Advisor will work closely with the host VCA country, Regional and Global Programme Teams. He/She will report to the VCA Director.

Key Responsibilities:

Resource Mobilisation 50%

Identify funding opportunities and lead proposal development efforts to secure financial support for climate finance initiatives.

- Cultivate relationships with donors, foundations and other potential funding sources.
- Work with and secure buy-in from international financial institutions, regional funding entities, philanthropy and private sector.
- Manage reporting requirements to ensure compliance with grant conditions.

Policy Influencing, Research and Advocacy 20%

- Coordinate advocacy efforts to influence climate finance policies at regional and international forums, including the UNFCCC.
- Coordinate with Alliance Partners to develop impactful and timely policy documents (briefings, position papers, reports and recommendations).
- Continuously identify, monitor and evaluate climate finance policy developments directly or indirectly affecting associations and NGOs, the civic space, rule of law and democracy.
- Work with the climate finance and communication task force of the alliance to implement campaign plans focused on climate finance by using a variety of tools and tactics.

Stakeholder Engagement and Coordination 15%

- Organise and coordinate events and engagement strategies with partner organisations, CSOs and other key stakeholders to the programme.
- Support in facilitating workshops, roundtables and meetings to align stakeholder objectives with financial strategies for climate resilience.
- Build and maintain relationships with financial and climate policy communities within regionally and internationally.

Communications and Networking 15%

- Develop and execute communication strategies to raise awareness about key climate finance issues including but not limited to additional, just, grant based and gender, indigenous people and local communities' responsive climate finance.
- Coordinate preparation of press releases, op-ed pieces and articles for publication in international media on climate finance related topics.
- Collaboratively work with the communication task force in designing and releasing digital content related to climate finance, including on VCA website and social media platforms.
- Represent VCA in various conferences and meetings as may be deemed appropriate by VCA director.
- Coordinate with Alliance Partners to develop impactful and timely policy documents (briefings, position papers, reports and recommendations).
- Develop policy briefs, position papers and recommendations on climate finance strategies.

Qualifications

- Education: A bachelor's degree (a master's is an added advantage) in a relevant field (e.g. Environmental Science, Economics, Public Policy, or any other related field).
- Experience: 5+ years advocacy and/or research in a multi-cultural environment; previous experience in policy analysis and development is preferable.
- Relevant experience in an environment/sustainability-related field (climate finance focus valued highly) with a social, gender or environmental justice NGO.
- Experience working on complex projects with multiple stakeholders and varying interests (experience working in a consortium is an added advantage).
- Experience in positions of leadership in previous jobs, institutions or communities.
- Experience coordinating logistics for multiple events, projects or activities.
- Strong knowledge of climate policy and experience working with stakeholders around climate policy development in the global south will be valued highly.
- A strong understanding of climate finance, the global south's development and climate finance context and opportunities, the political economy and development partners in this line is highly desirable.
- Sound knowledge and interest in international and regional financing institutions.
- Knowledge of the socioeconomic and political landscape of climate issues in the global south.
- Demonstrated ability to develop effective partnerships and secure funding from various sources. Strong analytical skills, including an ability to draw out key points from technical sources and identify the broader implications of different policy options.
- Strong understanding and/or experience in climate finance.
- 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 have an advantage.
- Passion for advancing justice, rights and democracy; understanding of civic space and NGOs sector.
- Experience with programme/project management methodologies and ability to work to the highest level of integrity and confidentiality.

Place in the Alliance

- Will be hosted by Slum Dwellers International (SDI) and will be based in either Cape Town – South Africa or Nairobi - Kenya with travel to the programme implementing countries namely Brazil, Bolivia, Paraguay, Kenya, Indonesia, Tunisia and Zambia as required.
- Working closely with Climate Finance leads in other Alliance Partners, the VCA team in the host country and the Global Programme Team.
- The Climate Finance Lobby and Advocacy Advisor will report to the VCA Director.
- Contract period – 16 months.

How to apply

Interested applicants should submit the following by e-mail to vaneshree@ngorecruit.com quoting reference number: **VCA001**

- 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 VCA's vision.

Application Deadline: **7 August 2024**

Interested applicants are encouraged to **apply ASAP**. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted. For more information about VCA, visit their [website](#) and social media pages: [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#).