

Job description

Principal Consultant – Nature-based Solutions Specialist

This position will play a significant role in the Nature Finance team, supporting and delivering our growing portfolio of Nature-based Solutions (NbS) projects.

As NbS Specialist you will support screening, feasibility assessments and project development, helping our clients to identify high-quality project opportunities and working with on-the ground partners to guide investment towards high integrity nature-positive outcomes. A particular focus will be to connect clients to high integrity carbon projects with biodiversity co-benefits.

As part of a team combining deep experience in biodiversity, with internationally recognised expertise, you will have the opportunity to develop innovative solutions, contribute to The Biodiversity Consultancy's overarching NbS strategy and increase our impact.

The Biodiversity Consultancy's mission is to integrate nature into business and finance decision-making through science-based approaches. Your work with financial services companies will help scale up investments in nature-positive opportunities and develop strategies that redirect financial flows from destructive practices to the protection and restoration of nature.

Responsibilities

Project development

- Working with the Nature Finance team to assess the feasibility of potential NbS opportunities based on technical criteria (carbon, biodiversity, social, political feasibility)
- Designing and developing Nature-based Solutions projects, with a focus on high integrity natural climate solutions projects with biodiversity co-benefits
- Contribute to The Biodiversity Consultancy's wider services offered by the Nature Finance team, e.g., helping companies to risk-screen investments, as well as participation in the analysis of investment portfolios
- Support projects for timely, on-budget delivery of quality work with high technical excellence

Strategy and business development

- Working with the Nature Finance team to build strategic partnerships with companies and investors for the delivery of NbS
- Working to continuously improve our NbS service offering. This will involve contributing to business development, writing proposals, leading market research and thought leadership initiatives

Innovation and communication

- Write and review material for scientific and business press, our website and publications

- Public speaking on behalf of The Biodiversity Consultancy, including writing and delivering presentations. Elevating our visibility as a trusted brand for NbS & broader opportunities management in the financial sector.
- Keeping up to date with relevant legislation, policy, guidance and best practice relating to natural capital, ecosystem services, environmental valuation, carbon offsetting and net zero

Essential attributes

- Five years' experience of voluntary carbon project development, including REDD+ projects
- Three years' experience of undertaking field conservation projects in developing economy contexts (e.g. West Africa, Southeast Asia)
- Background in environmental sciences, natural resources management, conservation or sustainability
- Expertise in drafting Project Design Documents aligned with voluntary carbon standard requirements (e.g. VCS, CCB, Gold Standard, Plan Vivo) or international good practice REDD requirements
- Experience in project management and delivery
- Experience in stakeholder engagement and participatory approaches
- Excellent communication and writing skills in English
- Proficiency in French

Desirable attributes

- Demonstrable experience in biodiversity monitoring and evaluation
- Experienced in wider natural capital assessments and blended financing options to enhance ecosystem service delivery - would be an advantage
- Awareness, and where possible experience of, the global biodiversity agenda and leading institutional initiatives (post 2020 global biodiversity framework, TNFD, EU taxonomy etc)

Role details

- Permanent, full time
- £ competitive salary
- Preferred location: Cambridge, UK, or a strategic location elsewhere in the world
- We have a flexible approach and would consider remote/home-working arrangements for exceptional overseas candidates. This role is likely to require international travel
- Benefits include a non-contractual bonus, 25 days' holiday, a work pension scheme, life insurance and flexible working opportunities

Application details

Applications by 13th December 2022. Send the following to: recruitment@thebiodiversityconsultancy.com

- Up to date Curriculum Vitae
- A short application letter explaining your interest in the job, showing clearly how you meet our job and person requirements
- A short (maximum four pages) extract of work that you have written within the past two years, in either English or French.

Early applications are encouraged, and we reserve the right to appoint earlier should the right candidate be found. The Biodiversity Consultancy is committed to diversity and inclusion and welcomes applications from all background.

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About us

The Biodiversity Consultancy works with business and finance to integrate nature into sustainability strategy and practice. Since 2006 we have guided clients across sectors and around the world to respond to biodiversity- and nature-related risk and create new ways of working which deliver business value and safeguard our natural environment.

Our team are purpose-driven biodiversity and sustainability experts, trusted by household names, financial institutions, governments, and leading NGOs to deliver strategic guidance and deep technical expertise. From single sites to global systems, we equip our clients with the knowledge, capacity, and tools to create meaningful change and achieve their nature-related goals.

We place a high value on the experience and expertise of our staff and strive to create the conditions for individuals to grow and flourish in a stimulating, collaborative and flexible culture. Personal development is important to us and as such we offer a comprehensive, tailored induction and ongoing in-house and external training opportunities.