

Position Posted: Posted: Type: Location:

Program Director November 20, 2024 Full time Virtual, with preference for Washington DC (US ET / London time zones preferred)

Organization Description

<u>Dynamic Planet</u> helps build conservation economies – that is economies that restore nature rather than deplete it. We are part of a growing effort to help effectively and equitably protect 30% of the planet by 2030 (30x30) with strong local socio-economic benefits and fit-for-purpose sustainable financing. To meet this ambitious goal, Dynamic Planet works at the invitation of governments, businesses and NGO partners, such as <u>National Geographic Pristine Seas</u> and other organizations invested in fully or highly protected marine areas (MPAs) with and for local communities. Our team supports high-impact partners from government, business, and civil society to build regenerative seascapes.

Campaign Description

To achieve 30x30, the world needs to quadruple current ocean protection in the next 6 years. Fully or highly protected MPAs have been proven to restore marine life and provide new economic opportunities via ecotourism, enhanced fisheries, and food security around them, and help mitigate global warming. If managed and reinvested well, MPAs are regenerating 'fish factories' that can pay for themselves and provide economic benefits to locals in tourism and fishing in perpetuity. MPAs are engines of ocean regeneration that yield multiple benefits to humanity.

We are embarking on a novel, high profile, multi-year global campaign to scale coastal marine conservation in an unprecedented way - by building a global hub to catalyze action by local leading groups. The campaign goals are: 1) to accelerate the establishment of new nearshore MPAs to help fill the gap to 30% and 2) strengthen the level of protection of existing MPAs (by banning bottom trawling within).

The campaign will communicate the benefits of MPAs, reform national policies, and equip coastal communities to create and manage new MPAs on their own - and contribute to 30x30. The co-founders of the campaign have published pioneering scientific papers that have contributed directly to the global agreement to protect 30% of the planet by 2030. The initiative will kick off with a special feature documentary in theaters and on National Geographic/Disney+ with audience-specific content available for local campaigning. The campaign will include a strategy to raise awareness through global, high-profile screening events and a film festival circuit with prominent leaders. With guidance from in-country coalition partners, the initiative will equip local communities with the necessary tools and resources to establish their own MPAs. We also aim to promote peer-to-peer learning networks to accelerate the adoption and increase the effectiveness of these locally managed MPAs. This is an opportunity to significantly contribute to global outcomes as we shift traditional markets from extraction to regeneration as a solution to the combined climate, biodiversity, and equity crises.

Position Description - Your Responsibilities and Impact

Reporting to the CEO, we are seeking a strategic, entrepreneurial, and experienced Program Director to join our leadership team. This key role will be responsible for program development and cultivating and managing strategic partnerships with international conservation, fishing, and tourism organizations to foster collaborative relationships, and drive outcomes for global coastal conservation. Key responsibilities include:

- Develop and implement a comprehensive strategy with each priority country, in collaboration with lead delivery partners, to use new tools and resources of the initiative to scale coastal MPAs. This includes conservation plan, policy strategy, team building, budget development, business plan, and other aspects of implementing the initiative.
- Identify and establish new partnerships in new priority countries with key local actors and groups involved in coastal MPA creation, securing partnership agreements that ensure mutual benefit and alignment with overall goals. Local actors and groups include conservation organizations, fishing and tourism businesses and associations, academic institutions, and corporate partners.
- Lead and manage partner engagement, regularly communicating with partners, organizing exchange events, and facilitating access to technical assistance as needed.
- Track time-bound progress to understand partnership effectiveness with key metrics and outcomes, assess needs, and support for next level of development; develop solutions between Dynamic Planet and in-country teams along with the leadership team.
- In collaboration with Communications, develop and implement strategies and tactics to engage, empower, and spotlight campaign partners including film screenings, training workshops, and media outreach.
- Represent the initiative and support partners at meetings, conferences, and events to promote our mission and expand our network of effective international partners working with coastal communities.
- Stay on the cutting edge of trends and developments in the international ocean conservation sector, identifying new opportunities and best practices for partnership growth and effectiveness.

Skills & Experience Required

- Mid-career partnerships program builder with proven track record (10+ years) in project and partnership development with international non-profit and / or environmental sectors.
- Significant experience building and maintaining partnership networks for the purposes of learning and collective impact; demonstrated understanding of trust and incentives that hold partners and coalitions together through strong service leadership.
- Demonstrated ability to understand the big picture and deliver on mapping strategies and steps within realistic timelines, mitigating risks with foresight, and pivoting where necessary.
- Sophisticated understanding of political-economic contexts and human behavior to apply strategic thinking skills with ability to identify opportunities, innovate, and adapt quickly to changes and unexpected events.
- Critical thinking skills with a proven ability to deliver pragmatic and professional outcomes across multiple work streams, balancing multiple priorities at any given time.
- Record of outstanding interpersonal and social skills to build strong, trusting relationships and networks across cultures, geographies and partner levels (government, policy, business, and community audiences).
- Experience managing diverse teams; excellent time management of self and others, with a record of meeting others' deadlines in a dynamic, fast-paced, multi-cultural environment.
- Excellent writing and verbal communication skills in English other languages are a bonus.
- Excellent project management and organizational skills with high attention to detail and tone.
- Strong ability to work virtually and effectively across time zones and cultures.

Desired Characteristics

- Experience working across sectors internationally in the nonprofit and/or environmental sector, favoring experience in international ocean and coastal protection, regenerative coastal economies, or related issues.
- Knowledge of best practices for partner and project management systems and software (including Al trends) that incorporate consistent partner communication, implementing and maintaining program plans, timelines, and agreements.
- Advanced degree in International Relations, Natural Resources Management, Business Administration, Non-Profit Management, or related fields.
- Demonstrated commitment to supporting local communities and promoting equity, diversity, and inclusion internally and externally.
- A collaborative, humble spirit, effective at engaging stakeholders and collaborators with good judgment, common sense, and keen discretion.

Timeline, Compensation & Benefits

- Immediate start with a competitive, flexible package commensurate with experience.
- Full-time contract with 3-month probation period converted upon mutual agreement.
- Opportunity to significantly contribute to novel global outcomes as we shift traditional markets from
 extraction to regeneration as a solution to the combined climate, biodiversity, and equity crises.
- Opportunity to join a creative, entrepreneurial, world-class, yet humble team, working with a global network of innovators and changemakers including government, business, and community leaders.

How to apply

Please send to jobs@dynamicpla.net with Program Director in the subject line:

- a concise cover letter explaining how your experience directing a program through the development and implementation of partnerships could serve this important global coastal initiative (maximum 1 page)
- a CV/resume (maximum 2 pages)
- name and contact information of 3 references

Dynamic Planet is an equal opportunity employer committed to providing a working environment that embraces and values diversity and inclusion. We encourage people of all backgrounds to apply. If you have any support or access requirements, we encourage you to advise us at the time of application. We will then work with you to identify the best way to assist you through the recruitment process.

Thank you!