High Seas Alliance Program Officer position

Since its founding in 2011, the High Seas Alliance (HSA) with its 40+ non-governmental members and the International Union for Conservation of Nature has been working towards protecting the 50% of the planet that is the high seas. As the region of the global ocean that is beyond national jurisdiction, the high seas includes some of the most biologically important, least protected, and most critically threatened ecosystems in the world.

HSA members work together to inspire, inform and engage the public, decision-makers and experts to support and strengthen high seas governance and conservation, as well as cooperating towards the establishment of high seas protected areas. Our current priority is to ensure that negotiations taking place at the United Nations since 2018 result in a successful conclusion in 2021, followed by the implementation of its provisions that result in robust protection for marine biological diversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction.

We are seeking an addition to our team to work with our members toward achieving change in the high seas.

**Position Overview: Program Officer**

This 12-month contract position (4-5 days p/wk), will undertake and be responsible for a range of activities, including to develop and implement in-country campaign strategies to promote adoption of a robust new treaty for the conservation of marine biodiversity in the high seas, as well as support development of policy positions and related materials as needed. The position will report to the Director, and will work closely with all members of the HSA team. The position has a set time frame that could be extended based on the success of the program, funding sources, and board decisions on continued support.

Contractor shall:

- In conjunction with the HSA Director and the HSA Steering Committee, develop, implement and oversee effective campaign strategies in key countries to secure support for strong conservation provisions in the new high seas agreement.
- Identify effective campaign and advocacy strategies for each of the key countries identified, develop a calendar of planned in-country activities, ensure events and strategies are implemented on time and effectively.
Participate in strategic planning discussions and regular working group calls/meetings to assist in the implementation of strategies and tactics developed to achieve campaign objectives.

Develop and manage projects independently, with guidance from HSA Director, and in collaboration with the HSA Steering Committee.

Organize events or workshops as requested to build support on HSA issues.

Assist in coordinating information flow among HSA member groups and between working groups.

Maintain a working knowledge of technical information and policy frameworks relevant to the campaign.

Assist preparation of policy briefs and background documents as needed, as well as written communications for advocacy and outreach.

Work with the Communications team in the execution of media strategies and materials.

Travel internationally, as needed, to represent HSA at international workshops and in meetings with government officials.

Desired Qualifications:

- Bachelor’s degree required; Graduate degree in international relations, public policy, law or environmental-related field highly preferred.
- A minimum of seven years progressively responsible experience on international or environmental campaigns or with government, preferably related to ocean, climate or fisheries policy.
- Strong and proven writing skills.
- Demonstrated experience in working internationally, and developing and implementing in-country campaigns, research and writing, public speaking and issue advocacy, and mobilizing people to take action; experience working with coalitions a plus.
- Demonstrated flexibility, time- and project-management skills, highly organized, ability to multi-task and work in a fast-paced non-profit culture that emphasizes teamwork and a collegial atmosphere.
- Proven ability to work independently, set priorities, and identify resources with limited supervision.
- Ability and willingness to travel domestically and internationally, and to work flexible hours for meetings with our global coalition with members based in the U.S., Europe, Latin America, Africa and Asia.
- Fluency in English is required and knowledge of another UN official language is desirable.
- Highly proficient with Microsoft Office Suites (Word, Excel), Zoom, and Google applications.
- This is a remote position, but must be able to work comfortably within US EST time zone.

Please submit all letters of interest with CV to info@highseasalliance.org by January 25, 2021.