

Amazon Renewable Energy Programme Lead

Position to be based in: Lima (Peru), La Paz or Santa Cruz (Bolivia), Bogota or Cali (Colombia)

Reporting to: Co reports to Conservation Director in hosted country office and to Amazon

Coordinator based in Ecuador

Contract term: Fixed term contract for three years with view to extension

The predominant source of electricity generation in Latin America is hydropower responsible for around 50% of electric power generation. Beyond the contribution towards (and vulnerability to) climate change, a large expansion of hydropower plants is likely to result in significant social and environmental impacts. Twenty-one hydropower plants are under construction in the Amazon basin and 277 at some stage of planning. As a response to this, WWF has been working on sustainable hydropower in the Amazon since 2008. Yet, there are alternatives to hydropower as countries work towards meeting energy security and climate goals. Latin America is endowed with a vast supply of non-conventional renewable energy sources, including wind, solar and biomass. If this endowment were tapped and systematically developed while applying robust social and environmental standards, it could well address all of the region's projected energy demands, all the while fostering local development, employment and environmental conservation.

To date, WWF's work in promoting alternative renewables and energy efficiency and integration in the Amazon region has been more nascent, though the focus on it is growing. WWF Brazil has a dedicated Climate and Energy Team activity engaging on the national renewable energy agenda. WWF Bolivia, WWF Peru and WWF Colombia have also become increasingly engaged on national discussions about energy planning and the role of renewable energies in the mix, and the role of the private sector in supporting the advancement of that agenda. In order to mitigate against the risks posed by significant expansion of hydropower in the Amazon basin and to keep within climate change targets, it is critical that WWF steps up its work on non-conventional renewable energy generation. This new regional position, based in one of WWF's offices in the region would work with counterparts in other WWF offices to build and implement a regional renewable energy strategy.

The contract would initially be for three years and the post holder would be expected to deliver these major outcomes:

- 1. Development of a regional WWF strategy and roadmap for renewable energy in the Amazon region
- 2. Build a coalition and community of renewable energy advocates in the region
- 3. Work with WWF offices in the region to Influence national government ambitions on renewable energy generation
- 4. Work with regional and national stakeholders to promote the concept of regional power integration and work towards a regional agreement
- 5. Promote south-south learning between WWF offices including Mekong region where a similar initiative is underway
- 6. Coordinate with the Regional Director of Sustainable Energy Policy and other WWF experts in Latin America and the Caribbean and from the Energy and Climate Change Practice.
- 7. Continue dialogs with the Latina American Energy Organization (OLADE) and other regional bodies

Funds are available to support this position for three years, but the post holder would be expected to work with WWF offices to raise further funds which will be necessary to implement the strategy in full.

Major Duties and Responsibilities

- To develop, own and implement WWF's strategic plan and roadmap for renewable energy in the Amazon region, aligned with the energy integration efforts from LAC
- As appropriate conduct further research in order to better understand context and opportunities/threats
- Coordinate a team of renewable energy representatives from WWF offices in the Amazon region
- Lesson exchange and learning: with a similar programme in the Mekong and across Amazon offices.
- Lead or oversee external engagement with government agencies, multilateral organisations, private and finance sectors, technical experts and other key stakeholders across the region to build shared agendas that advance the objectives of the strategic plan.
- Developing best practice pilots/case studies to support advocacy work
- Orchestrate the human, technical and financial resources from within and outside the WWF Network to implement the strategy.
- Manage contracts with external partners
- Engagement with the WWF Network to advance implementation of priority actions.
- Help build capacity on renewables to staff in key WWF offices in the Amazon region
- Monitoring and Evaluation of programme including regular reporting to the WWF Network on successes and challenges
- Ensure coherence and co-ordination with other WWF strategies in the region as well with the Climate and Energy Practice.
- Developing communications materials for relevant internal and external audiences
- To support the development of a fundraising strategy for the programme and to identify funding opportunities, write proposals and engage with donors in order to raise extra funds for the programme.

Required Qualifications

- At least 10 years of professional experience in renewable energy including for conservation and sustainable development with demonstrated success in coordinating across multi-disciplinary teams, networking from a distance, technical capacity building and team leadership.
- At least 5 years professional experience in a leadership role, with demonstrated success in managing multiple donor budgets, raising and mobilising funding, strong networking and developing partnerships skills, building technical capacity and team leadership.
- Advanced degree, technical proficiency and/or experience related to energy, particularly renewable energy generation, as well as management and international development.
- Knowledge of economic, social and natural sciences, as well as other relevant fields is a plus.
- Excellent knowledge of the subjects of renewable energy, as well as knowledge about the Amazon region
- Available for international travel
- Fully fluent in English and Spanish
- Eligible to work in one of the host offices

Interested applicants can email a cover letter and CV to rrhh@wwf.org.ec / tarsicio.granizo@wwf.org.ec with the subject line "Amazon Renewable Energy Programme Lead". Deadline for applications: December 19th, 2016.