



WWF-Laos

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JOB DESCRIPTION

Position title: Technical Advisor, Stop Illegal Wildlife Trade, WWF-Laos

Reports to: Conservation Director, WWF-Laos

Supervises: Project Managers

Grade (IPE scores): M2, IPE-51

Location: Vientiane

Date: October 2019

I. Background

WWF has been working in Laos since the late 1980s in cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry. Our country programme office was first established in Vientiane in 2001. Since then, our team has grown to over 40 Lao, international and volunteer staff working on over 10 projects countrywide with offices in Vientiane, Champassak, Salavan and Sekong provinces. WWF-Laos is part of WWF Greater Mekong Programme Office, which operates in 5 countries: Vietnam, Thailand, Myanmar, Cambodia and Laos. Find out more at www.panda.org/laos.

WWF has been a strong, credible and recognized global force in the world of conservation for the past half-century as we have strived to deliver on our mission of building a world where people thrive in harmony with nature. With our new 2015-2020 Strategic Plan, we aim at increasing our conservation impact by focusing on direct threats to wildlife, forests, and water ecosystems, and by increasing our influence and credibility in the Lao PDR.

The Greater Mekong region, including the Lao PDR, is a critical area in the global illegal wildlife trade (IWT). Laos is a source, transit and destination country for a number of the most threatened and lucratively traded wildlife species including tiger, Asian and African elephant, rhino, bears, and pangolins. The epicenter of this trade is the Golden Triangle – where Thailand, Myanmar, Laos, and China meet – and where a number of casino-resorts, hotels, and restaurants operate and openly sell wildlife products to predominantly Chinese tourists. Other special economic zones in Laos mainly operated by Chinese investors have similar IWT conditions too. Eliminating illegal wildlife trade in Laos is a priority of the WWF.

The WWF network is currently focusing on “Closing down Asia’s ivory markets” as a High Impact Initiative. This initiative places great emphasis on the Greater Mekong Region, because the legal ivory markets in China were closed on December 31, 2017 and consequently the demand for ivory in the countries of the Greater Mekong region (Myanmar, Thailand, Laos, Cambodia, and Vietnam) has increased. The HII plans to build an effective policy engagement capacity in the region that persuades governments to close domestic ivory markets. The HII will also focus on reducing consumer demand for ivory.



President: Pavan Sukhdev
Director General: Marco Lambertini
President Emeritus: HRH The Duke of Edinburgh
Founder President: HRH Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands

Registered as: WWF-World Wide Fund for Nature, WWF-Fondo Mondiale per la Natura
WWF-Fondo Mundial para la Naturaleza, WWF-Fonds Mondial pour la Nature
WWF-Welt Natur Fonds. Formerly as World Wildlife Fund

II. Major Functions

The IWT Technical Advisor leads the anti-IWT efforts of WWF in Laos, including strategies to deal with wildlife crimes at source, curtailing wildlife trafficking, and demand reduction in Laos. He/she also leads the implementation of the action plan developed under the WWF Ivory HII initiative for closing down ivory markets in Lao PDR.

The Technical Advisor is responsible for the technical supervision and strategic management of all WWF anti-IWT projects in Laos, supervising Project Managers who directly implement grants and other agreements with Government and non-Government counterparts. Additionally, the Technical Advisor supports WWF Laos' fundraising efforts for IWT strategies.

III. Major Duties and Responsibilities

- Supervise IWT Project Managers and Officers;
- Provide technical guidance and support to WWF Laos staff in programme and project implementation related to Ivory & IWT, as determined by project activities and work plans;
- Lead policy advocacy activities against ivory and illegal wildlife trade in the Lao PDR, in coordination with the relevant teams in WWF-Laos and in the region;
- Lead implementation of the action plan developed under the Ivory HII initiative for closing down the ivory markets in Lao PDR;
- Provide direct technical support to Lao PDR Government counterparts agencies where and when needed;
- Represent WWF Laos in relevant meetings, networks, stakeholders' engagement, and partnership dialogues;
- Support communication of outcomes of Ivory & IWT activities in Laos through the WWF Network and external channels;
- Maintain a working knowledge of political, legislative, environmental, social and economic frameworks relevant to Ivory & IWT in Laos, and support engagement of WWF teams in relevant dialogues and meetings;
- Proactively support the fundraising efforts of WWF Laos for Ivory & IWT strategies;
- Coordinates with GMPO IWT and Wildlife Crime leads on effective strategies and synergies, coordinates with the WWF regional and global Ivory HII coordinators, and interfaces with the Wildlife Crime Initiative of WWF network on its Wildlife Crime Prevention Framework;
- Other tasks aligned with WWF Laos' anti-IWT programme as assigned by the Conservation Director.

IV. Profile

Required Qualifications

- Bachelor's degree (Master's preferred) in forestry and/or natural resources management, law enforcement or in relevant fields;

Required experience, skills and competencies

- At least 5 years of working experience in forestry or in wildlife trade issues, in particular focused on policy advocacy and law enforcement;
- Extensive experience in project management;
- Extensive experience working in partnership with Government officials in southeast Asia; familiarity with Laos an advantage;
- Ability to learn fast and adapt to different working environments, including with international partners;
- Ability to work under limited supervision while keeping to set workplan; applying adaptive management where needed;
- Excellent written and spoken English. Lao language and/or Mandarin language an advantage;
- Adhere to WWF's values: **Knowledgeable, Optimistic, Determined and Engaging**;

- Essential WWF behaviours:
 - **STRIVE FOR IMPACT:** *«I am results driven. Everything I do, the way I think, plan and implement is driven by a relentless search for impact.»*
 - **LISTEN DEEPLY:** *«I go beyond my point of view and strive to see the bigger picture from different perspectives. I stay curious and listen deeply to what others have to say.»*
 - **COLLABORATE OPENLY:** *«I'm a global citizen working for a living planet. I am constantly thinking of how with others, together, we can be more impactful. I work across boundaries, openly ask for help and share what I know, both internally and externally.»*
 - **INNOVATE FEARLESSLY:** *«I take risks to find better solutions. I measure progress and learn from mistakes. I share both success & failures. I encourage others to do the same.»*

V. Working Relationships:

- **Internal** – WWF GMPO: Report to the WWF Laos Conservation Director. Interact on a regular basis with Practice Coordinators, Project Managers, Province Coordinators, and Regional Technical Advisors, in particular the WWF GMPO IWT and Wildlife Leads, and the WWF regional and global coordinators of Ivory HII. Engage with and support all WWF-Laos staff.
- **External** – Interact with central government agencies, development partners, INGOs and local NGOs on a regular basis. Interact on an ad-hoc basis with all relevant stakeholders at the community, district, and provincial levels.

This job description covers the main tasks and conveys the spirit of the sort of tasks that are anticipated proactively from staff. Other tasks may be assigned as necessary according to organizational needs.