



CONVENTION ON WETLANDS  
(Ramsar, Iran, 1971)

## Job Description

1. **POSITION TITLE:** Climate Change Officer (JPO)
2. **FUNCTIONAL GROUP:** P1
3. **LOCATION:** Gland, Switzerland
4. **DURATION:** 12 months (renewable)
5. **REPORTING RESPONSIBILITIES:**

Under the overall guidance of the Senior Advisor, the reporting responsibilities of this position are as follows:

<b>Reporting to:</b>	
<b><u>Direct Reporting Line</u></b>	<b><u>Reporting Areas</u></b>
Senior staff member in charge of climate change	All

### 6. BACKGROUND:

The Convention on Wetlands is an intergovernmental treaty that provides the framework for national action and international cooperation for the conservation and sustainable use of wetland biodiversity and services. It is the first of the modern global multilateral environmental agreements and remains the only one devoted to a specific critical ecosystem.

The Convention on Wetlands Secretariat has its headquarters in Gland, Switzerland where the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), provides some administrative services to the Convention's Contracting Parties for the operations and implementation of the Convention.

With the increased urgency to take actions to address climate change, wetlands are considered as a critical nature-based solution for mitigation and adaptation. Wetlands are the planet's most effective carbon sink and make communities resilient as they provide a buffer against sea level rise and storm surges, and reduce impacts of natural disasters, including floods, drought, and cyclones. Furthermore, wetlands significantly contribute to human adaptation

to the impacts of climate change, considering wetlands are the primary sources of water for human consumption, energy and agriculture in all its forms.

Recognizing the large potential of wetlands to mitigate and adapt to climate change the Conference of the Parties to the Convention has taken a number of resolutions on these issues, such as Resolutions X.24, XII.11, XII.13 as well as XIII.12, XIII.13, XIII.14 and XIII.15 adopted at COP13. The linkages between climate change and wetlands thus needs to be further strengthened.

This position would actively contribute to the work of the Secretariat of the Convention on Wetlands by identifying and analysing relevant information, processes and developments on climate change at the international and national levels. This position will also contribute to providing technical advice and building capacities of Contracting Parties in this important area. The selected candidate will have the opportunity to learn and be mentored by technical experts and senior managers responsible for policy, resource mobilization and communications.

## **7. MAJOR RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- Identify and gathering relevant information on climate change issues, specifically policies, strategies, partnerships, programmes and actions at the international and national levels through desktop research and through attending meetings.
- Analyse and provide relevant information to support the Secretariat's work on wetlands and climate change, including advising Contracting Parties, engaging in policy processes, enhancing visibility of wetlands, and building partnerships to achieve conservation of wetlands and mitigation and adaptation to climate change.
- Contribute to building the capacity of Contracting Parties to strengthen the linkages between climate change and conservation of wetlands.
- Contribute to raising the visibility of wetlands and the profile of the Ramsar Convention in the achievement of international and national goals related to the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda and the Paris Agreement.

## **8. SPECIFIC DUTIES:**

- Conduct research and provide analysis on climate change issues related to wetlands, such as carbon sequestration and storage in wetlands, including mangroves, peatlands, salt marshes and seagrass beds.
- Contribute to capacity building work to support Contracting Parties in linking wetlands conservation and climate change, including the development of materials and tools.
- Provide technical inputs to relevant Secretariat work on climate change and wetlands.
- Compile reports on climate change and conservation of wetlands as requested.
- Support engagement and liaison with partners, including assisting in the development and strengthening of strategic partnerships.
- Provide technical as well as administrative support in relation to meetings, capacity building and stakeholder engagement
- Support communication and outreach, generating content for use on the website, in newsletters, outreach materials, presentations etc.
- Perform other duties as may be assigned from time to time.

*Please Note:*

*The above job description highlights the main duties and responsibilities for this position. However, staff members are expected to show flexibility in their approach to work and be willing to undertake other tasks that are reasonably allocated to them, but which are not part of their regular job description. Where any task becomes a regular part of an employee's responsibilities, the job description will be changed in consultation with the employee and the IUCN Human Resources Management Group.*

## **REQUIREMENTS**

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### Education

Graduate degree in one of the following area/field;

- Natural resources / environmental management,
- Environmental science and policy,
- Environmental law, and
- International relations with focus on environmental issues.

### Skills Required

- analytical and quantitative skills

- writing skills and experience
- ability to read, write, and communicate efficiently in English

#### Experience

- Required: Practical experience (2+ years) in the field of climate change at a governmental agency, research institute, or an environmental organization.

#### Language skills

- Required: high proficiency in English
- Beneficial: command in other Convention languages French and/or Spanish