The World Wide Fund for Nature seeks a

Programme Manager for Lake Tumba Landscape (DRC)

WWF is one of the largest independent conservation organizations in the world. We are an international NGO committed to environmental protection active in almost 100 countries. WWF has been working in the Congo Basin in Central Africa since 1978.

Central Africa region is 180 million hectares of forest that is almost half the size of the entire European Union. 40% of the region’s people live in and depend directly on the forests for their survival and livelihoods.

The WWF Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) programme has a large portfolio of field programmes in different landscapes, including Salonga, Lac Tumba, Virunga, Itombwe and Bas Congo, as well as different thematic programmes on sustainable forest management, climate, Protected Areas network assessment and extractive industries. The main areas of work follow four (4) main conservation strategies based on WWF strategic plan for the region: reducing illegal offtake of wildlife; partnering for new effective and sustainable protected areas; advancing a green economy; and building durable mechanisms to retain biodiversity, forests and carbon.

The WWF seeks a Programme Manager with expertise in broad-scale/landscape conservation management to direct its field programme in the Lake Tumba Landscape and provide overall coordination and leadership. The Programme Manager will oversee the implementation of WWF’s programme, work closely with senior scientific and conservation staff in the programme, supervise project staff and work with partners to advance landscape objectives. The Lake Télé-Lake Tumba Forest Landscape is the world’s largest swamp forest and the world’s second largest wetland area. It covers 126,440 km², spread over the Republic of Congo (ROC, 54,001 km²) and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC, 72,439 km²). Approximately 70% is swamp and seasonally inundated forest and grassland, and the remainder is terra firma forest and savanna. The landscape plays a key role in the climate and hydrology of the Congo basin and in watershed management in both the African and the global contexts. This landscape is further unique as all three (3) of Africa’s great apes (gorillas, chimpanzees and bonobos) are found at high densities within its boundaries. Other species occurring in the landscape include forest elephant, hippopotamus, 16 diurnal monkey species and 7 duiker species. Over 350 species of birds have been observed including important waterbird populations. Fish diversity is striking with over 80 species identified in DRC and 50 in ROC components. The fish diversity is not solely an indicator of biodiversity, but is the foundation of the livelihoods of most communities. The biodiversity and natural resources of the landscape face increasing threats from: (i) habitat loss by commercial and artisanal logging; (ii) unsustainable subsistence; and (iii) commercial hunting and fishing.

Location:
The position is based in Mbandaka (Democratic Republic of Congo).

Main responsibilities:
- **Project oversight and coordination**: Plans, directs and oversees project activities in accordance with the project description, work plan, budget and contractual agreements and ensures that the programme is making progress towards its objectives.
- **Project implementation:** Manages the portfolio of projects and project team using a participatory, adaptive management approach. Ensures that management systems are established and oversees the administration of the projects. With support from WWF, ensures that projects are in compliance with donor regulations.

- **Technical leadership** in major project components, including protected area management; community-based natural resource management; institutional strengthening and training; development of natural resource management plans, strategies, policies and legislation.

- **Financial management:** With the direct support of the Finance Manager develops project budgets for approval and monitors expenditures against budgets. Ensures establishment of financial management systems for the project(s) to adequately meet financial management needs and donor regulations and policies. Prepares and submits monthly financial reports to WWF in accordance with procedures established by WWF.

**What you need:**

**Required Qualifications**

- Minimum Master’s degree in natural resource management or a related field or the equivalent in working experience;
- Over 5 years working experience in conservation or development organizations, preferably in a similar biome, however, applicants with project management experience in Africa or elsewhere are encouraged to apply;
- Strong working knowledge of forest and wildlife ecology and natural resource management principles;
- Depth and breadth of knowledge of community-based natural resource management and rural livelihood issues;
- Strong administrative & financial management skills and excellent organizational skills;
- Fluency in French and English.

**Required skills and competencies**

- Excellent people and project management skills to handle complex, multi-faceted projects;
- Skills and experience in programme development
- Strong communication skills, particularly in writing reports and proposals for donor agencies;
- Familiarity with WWF, funding agencies (especially the World Bank, USAID, KfW) and Government agencies is preferred;
- Experience working with government officials and donors;
- Ability to live and work in remote and difficult conditions;
- Adheres to WWF’s values, which are: Knowledgeable, Optimistic, Determined and Engaging;
- Candidates of African origin/nationality are warmly received.

Please consult the attached job description for more information on the position.

**How to apply?**

Interested candidates who meet the above requirements should send a cover letter and a detailed CV to the address recruitcarpo@wwfcarpo.org. The subject should read PMLT.

Please note that only candidates under serious consideration will be contacted for follow up.

**Deadline for applications:** 15 January, 2013.