

Programme Manager, Science and Policy

The Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association (WIOMSA) is the regional network for cooperation in marine-related science and research and represents more than 1,000 scientists from 10 countries and 50 member organizations from the Western Indian Ocean (WIO) region. [WIOMSA](#) was founded as a regional scientific association in 1994, and is a non-profit, non-governmental organization. For more than 25 years, WIOMSA's core program has been the Marine Science for Management Programme (MASMA), with the goal of developing institutional capacity for marine science and assisting the WIO region in strengthening its marine knowledge-based economy. WIOMSA is also dedicated to facilitating and promoting ongoing dialogue between science and society in order for science to respond to people's needs and the general public to contribute to science.

WIOMSA has launched a new programme called "*Sustainable Blue Future in the Western Indian Ocean - Institutional Strengthening through Science, Capacity, and Assimilation for a Sustainable Blue Future - SCALABLE*" (2023-2026). The programme aims to strengthen the WIO science-policy interface and increase the impact of the WIOMSA's Marine Science for Management (MASMA) programme to support the implementation of the [Africa Blue Economy Strategy](#), with a focus on the WIO region.

WIOMSA is looking for a Science-Policy Programme Manager to oversee the implementation of the SCALABLE Programme's science-policy component. This position is in WIOMSA, Zanzibar. The incumbent will be responsible for the following duties under the overall supervision of the Executive Director:

Help achieve the ambitions outlined in the [WIOMSA Strategy Framework 2021-2025](#). The portfolio of responsibilities will include a broad range of aspects.

- Coordinating the implementation of the science-policy component of the SCALABLE programme which aim to increase the use of scientific evidence in political decision-making by strengthening the science-policy interface. The duties include:
 - Coordination of WIOMSA science and policy activities and preparation of related documents/reports (e.g., periodic reports and evaluations);
 - Providing technical input to regional workshop preparations in collaboration with partners;
 - Participating in regional science-policy meetings and providing government officials and other parties with WIO assessment guidance;
 - Establishing partnership and contacts with scientific bodies and the science community in the region, government officials, the international community, UN agencies, Regional Economic Commissions, regional and local non-governmental organizations and national research institutes;
 - Creating an inclusive network of WIO initiatives and organizations, including a stronger Western Indian Ocean Consortium of Partners (WIO-C) and coordination of research expert groups (marine litter, ocean acidification, seagrass, coral reef networks etc);
 - Resource mobilization to support the organization's science-policy activities.
- Managing WIOMSA's science communication activities. The roles will include:
 - Coordination of knowledge and expertise from various ocean sectors, research groups, and experts to feed WIO policy development and implementation
 - Creating, managing, and implementing scientific communication and marketing strategies to support effective communication and brokerage of ocean science to policy makers.

- Supporting the production of a series of regional publications including the Regional WIO Outlook reports with partners;
 - Facilitating the regional inputs into the [WIO-Science policy series](#)
 - Preparing various written outputs, e.g., draft background papers, analysis, sections of reports and studies, inputs to publications, policy briefs, etc. and follow on the implementation of recommendation emanating from relevant reports;
 - Providing substantive support to WIOMSA and partners consultative meetings and conferences;
 - Organising WIO science-policy events and the WIOMSA symposium;
 - Implementation of project-related communication and public relations activities and establish a digital presence for the science-policy Programme;
 - Representation of WIOMSA in international events and intergovernmental processes.
- Undertaking any other duties, within her/his area of competence, as assigned by the Executive Director in collaboration with other project coordinators.

Requirements

- Master's degree (or higher) in marine or maritime sciences, relevant natural or social sciences or related fields;
- Sound understanding of scientific processes with some degree of experience in scientific work and publication;
- Ability to write, review, and edit texts for both scientific and non-scientific audiences;
- Interest in and knowledge of international ocean-related political processes, as well as global sustainable development topics;
- Demonstrated project management skills;
- A demonstrated affinity to science communication, stakeholder engagement, ocean literacy or human capacity enhancement;
- Strong interest in research policy and marine and maritime research;
- At least 3-5 years working experience (preferably in a regional/international working environment);
- Excellent written and verbal language skills in English. Knowledge of French and/or Portuguese is an asset;
- Common computer literacy is expected. Experience with any communication-relevant software is an asset.

Personal Attributes and Competencies –

- Inter-personal skills and ability to maintain effective partnerships and working relations within a multi-cultural environment;
- Ability to work independently in a well-structured and goal-oriented manner;
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills as well as good team player qualities;
- Ability to effectively and positively interact with people in a multi-cultural and multi-disciplinary environment;
- Skills in personal organization, planning, priority setting, and managing multiple tasks;
- Attention to detail;
- Ability to work well under pressure;
- Willingness and ability to travel to international meetings.

Work Environment and Remuneration

- Duty Station: WIOMSA Headquarters, Zanzibar
- Working language is English
- WIOMSA offers a 3-year contract for a full-time position starting 1 August 2023 with 40 working hours a week and an annual leave of 5 weeks (25 workdays).
- Remuneration will be commensurate with the qualifications and experience of the successful candidate.

Application Process

Please send your application as one pdf file including a cover letter and your CV. Supporting documents can be added as considered relevant.

Deadline for applications is 21st July 2023, 11:59 p.m. EAT

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted by 30th July 2023.

Applications shall be addressed to:

Executive Director – secretary@wiomsa.org and copied to: the Corporate Services Manager, lilian@wiomsa.org

Don't forget to mention Programme Manager, Science and Policy when applying.