



## MANAGEMENT OF MANGROVE FOREST FROM SENEGAL TO BENIN

**Position Title:** Project Manager

**Duty station:** Freetown, Sierra Leone

**Reporting to:** Program Director

**Staff Reporting:** 2

**Type of Employment:** Full time

**Deadline to Apply:** February 15, 2020

**Starting date:** 1 st April 2020

**Coordinates with:** technical team, partners, regional office, communications staff, project managers, freelancers and contractors.

### Background

Wetlands International is a global network dedicated to safeguarding and restoring wetlands for people and nature. We are driven by the knowledge that safeguarding and restoring wetlands is urgent and vital for water security, biodiversity, climate regulation, sustainable development and human health.

Operating in more than 20 countries, the organization has its head office in the Netherlands, and regional offices in West Africa and East Africa. The Wetlands International Africa – Western Coast and Gulf of Guinea is based in Dakar, Senegal and operates in the coastal countries of West Africa and the Gulf of Guinea.

In West Africa, Wetlands International Africa works, with partners and allies to implement conservation and restoration of coastal ecosystems using a unique combination of conservation and restoration methods with the advancement of alternative livelihoods and capacity development.

Wetlands International Africa (WIA) is launching in Sierra Leone and Liberia a new project funded by EU. The project, titled *“management of mangrove forests from Senegal to Benin”*, aims to achieve integrated protection of the diversity and fragile ecosystems of Mangrove in West Africa and their enhanced resilience to climate change. The program overall program comprising this project is led by IUCN and the consortium also includes 5 Delta. The Intervention site of the project is the “Grand Mano” (Yawri Bay, Sherbro & Turtle Islands in Sierra Leone and Lake Piso in Liberia).

The Grand Mano area is a representative area of the Upper Guinea forest and is a Biodiversity "hot spot" according to the WWF classification. It is a transboundary site whose health depends to a large extent on the transboundary Gola ecosystem. It extends from the outskirts of the city of Freetown (Sierra Leone) to that of Monrovia (Liberia). It includes, in Sierra Leone, the Yawri Bay Marine Protected Area and the Sherbro Estuary, the Sewa Waanje Reserve, the Strict Transboundary Mangroves Reserve in Sulima, and in Liberia the Lake Piso Ramsar Site. It is a mostly wild area, with little infrastructure and low population density.

Sherbro and Turtle Islands are the southern boundary of the Southern Rivers region and their characteristic mangrove landscapes. With Yawri Bay, they represent a heritage complex of extreme importance both from a natural and a cultural point of view. With a small population, this ensemble is considered to be the last area of the region favorable to the establishment of a large conservation area. It is important to note that the National Assembly of Sierra Leone has taken a resolution for its classification, a resolution that could not be implemented because of the Ebola outbreak that started shortly thereafter.

**Purpose or the Position**

As a member of the Wetlands International Africa technical team, the Project Manager will be responsible for the implementation and the reporting of the “*management of mangrove forests from Senegal to Benin*”. This will involve coordinating the different elements to maximize effectiveness and impact at the landscape level. The project manager will oversee the work of the project team and facilitate the development of partnerships and collaboratives.

**Duties and Responsibilities**

Working to annual work plan agreed with the program director, the Project manager will:

- Represent Wetlands International Africa at the landscape level;
- Be responsible of the day to day management and reporting of the project;
- Develop and manage partnerships and stakeholder network;
- Be responsible for administration and monitoring of logistic arrangements leading to the proper use of the project basic infrastructure and equipment;
- Decide under certain boundaries (to be defined) on budget changes;
- Be a co-signatory and manage the decentralized project account;
- Make quarterly and monthly plans for project activities and budget requirements;
- Be responsible for monthly and quarterly financial reporting to WIA Finance team;
- Prepare fund requests;
- Organize and facilitate evaluations and audits;
- Be responsible for implementation of the security plan

**Requirements**

The Project Manager should have strong skills, knowledge and experience in implementing Mangrove conservation projects in Sierra Leone and / or Liberia.

**Minimum requirements:**

- Master’s Degree in natural resources management, conservation science or a related field.
- Extensive field experience implementing conservation and/or development projects preferably in the Grand Mano landscape
- Experience in ecological research and documentation of field surveys is essential.
- Skills to negotiate, liaise, handle conflict resolution and achieve practical results at a grassroots level among communities in remote rural regions of the Grand Mano Landscape
- Must have excellent oral and written English skills. Basic comprehension of French will be an advantage
- Demonstrated knowledge of administrative, financing and accounting procedures;

**How to apply**

To apply qualified individuals should send a CV and cover letter, to the following email address: [wia recruit@wetlands-africa.org](mailto:wia recruit@wetlands-africa.org).

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted. No phone calls please.