

WWF- internship: Communications for the Voices for just Climate Action (VCA) Program

Background of WWF: the host organization for this internship

WWF is an international organization for the protection of nature with the mission to stop the degradation of the planet's natural environment and to build a future in which Humans live in harmony with nature. The organization has independent offices in around 100 countries in the world forming a global network. There is a common worldwide strategy that focusses on the conservation of the biodiversity on the planet and the reduction of the global footprint to a level that is within the limits of the earth. WWF looks for solutions in cooperation with governments, companies and civil society to realize protection of species and their habitats and a sustainable use of environmental resources.

Background of the internship: the VCA program

The Voices for Just Climate Action (VCA) Program is one of WWF programs aimed to mobilize an alliance of global and local voices connecting a diverse range of civil society organizations (CSO's) representing women, youth, indigenous people, urban poor, digital activists and more. The alliance is led by four strong Southern CSOs – Akina Mama wa Afrika (AMwA), Fundacion Avina, Slum Dwellers International (SDI) and South South North (SSN) – and two Global CSOs – Hivos and WWF-Netherlands. It is active in the Netherlands and six regions in Latin America, Africa and Asia.

The alliance aims to influence a world where civil society is heard and respected. A world where civil society co-creates locally relevant, inclusive and fundable climate solutions and is an agent of change and influences policies and practices to the benefit of these solutions. As part of local and global responses to the climate crisis, these climate solutions will deliver real benefits to people and nature. The alliance works on this vision through three strategic interventions:

1. Mutual capacity strengthening for co-creating alternative scaled climate solutions
2. Agenda-setting and movement in climate action through amplified storytelling
3. Joint lobbying and advocacy to make policy and financial flows responsive to locally shaped climate solutions

VCA presents a fair, just and solution-oriented agenda that integrates social and economic rights into climate action. Together – alliance partners and local civil society organizations - we create a democratic playing field and amplify the inventive local solutions to spur a broader development. By doing so, we are set to shape a new reality for people and nature. VCA aims to support movement building, raising their voice to the global level and challenging power balances.

Social movements provide access to and accentuates underrepresented voices of civil society through their collective social action. Movements have always been on the frontlines when it comes to raising awareness on social injustices. Movement structures are autonomous and self-organizing, and involve representatives from the most vulnerable societies. For example, today, young people from all over the world have emerged as agents of change expressing an urgency to stop global warming and are addressing climate injustices that are not showing any signs of slowing down despite heightened awareness. VCA engages in social movements as a critical frame to democratize and represent voices of the marginalized in the policy making. VCA supports partners to acquire leadership and partnership roles within and alongside global policy makers on inclusive conservation, just climate action and sustainable development. VCA aims to be a strategic partner of the movements creating transformative impact and social change to realize transitions to a just and climate-friendly planet.

One of the main drivers of successful movement building and amplification of voices is communications.

The internship

In this internship we are looking for a student who can help to strengthen the communication around the VCA program and make the VCA program visible as the outstanding example of inclusive conservation (IC). IC is part of the long term strategy of WWF-NL. This includes internal and external communication. Communication can refer to, and target, a wider public so as to put attention to VCA as an example of Inclusive Conservation and the importance of it. But also, it refers to fundraising and communicating to and influencing the government.

Activities include:

Supporting the general senior VCA communication officer through:

- collecting and sorting information from the field areas of the VCA Program
- updating the communication strategy and making information more visible and accessible
- supporting colleagues with information for eg. reporting, lobbying and fundraising
- maintaining the website/newsletters and weekly announcements, and any other relevant communication material
- (co)-organizing important events, both online and in-person.

Methodology: you start with participating in the VCA team weekly meetings to determine your work and responsibility. You will get access to relevant intranet channels and important resources. During the internship, you are expected to run the activities above through coordinated alignment with the wider VCA team, including during/through any bilateral and collective meetings.

	WWF is looking for a master student or student from last year practical university (HBO) with expertise on, and joy for, communications and, ideally, with affinity for the topics of social justice, equity, gender and intersectionality in (or in relation to) nature conservation. The student should be good in working both independently and in a team.
Student Profile	Excellent English -and preferably also Dutch- writing and speaking skills are a prerequisite.
Period	The internship start-date could be discussed but at latest September 2024. Internship will take six months.

Allowance Students in NL achieve an allowance of € 550 euros,- per month on a full time basis.

Information and Questions: contact your supervisor or Natascha Zwaal nzwaal@wwf.nl

Please send your CV and motivation letter as soon as possible but before September 14h to Natascha Zwaal nzwaal@wwf.nl and Diana Frances: dfrances@wwf.nl