



Job Search - WaterLANDS
Job title: Senior Ecologist

1) Brief presentation WahV & WaterLANDS

Wahv is a Third Sector Organisation (TSO), registered in the National Register of the Third Sector and lead Italian partner in WaterLANDS. The activities of WahV are dedicated to the conservation and development of Venice as a living city. Venice, with its specificity, its history and its cultural intricacies, represents a unique context for exploring and acting on innovative policies of resilience. WahV initiatives range from specific projects, such as research and fieldwork, to broad awareness-raising campaigns. The association collaborates with universities, businesses, cultural institutions, community groups and public authorities to create projects and propositions which are based on rigorous research and bring concrete economic, physical and ecological change, measurable by social indicators.

WaterLANDS is funded through the EU Horizon 2020 Green Deal Call 7.1 project which started 1/12/2022 and will end on 31/11/2026. WaterLANDS focuses its restoration efforts at six Action Sites which are degraded freshwater and coastal wetlands. WahV is coordinating work in the Venice Lagoon, both as a Knowledge and Action Site. As such, our work plan includes engaging with local communities, designing awareness raising activities, producing supporting information, and other activities to reinforce connections between local stakeholders, lagoon communities and academic experts. Indeed, WahV already has extensive experience in collaborating with universities, businesses, cultural institutions and public authorities that will enable lasting impacts of the project. Through planning and management of the restoration works of the Venice Action Site, WahV is drawing upon knowledge from past experiences and projects in the Venetian Lagoon, information exchange with WL project partners as well as other experts and rigorous research with the intention to bring about concrete economic, physical and ecological change in the lagoon, thus demonstrating the benefits of saltmarshes for society. WahV endeavours to maintain links with policy makers so that recommendations for a more sustainable management of the lagoon in the long term can be appropriately formulated and directly implemented, also through innovative financial and economic schemes for private-public partnerships.

2) Job purpose & duties

In a first instance, the ecologist will work alongside our WahV scientific officer on the design and implementation of the restoration actions: finalizing the monitoring design and initiating its implementation, and collaborate on fieldwork. Subsequently (from 1/1/24), the ecologist will have main responsibility for the restoration actions, monitoring and upscaling.

We are looking for a person that will gradually (over the next 6 months) become WahV's WL Work Package coordinator for all activities related to WP1 & WP6

WP1: Identifies how to manage local stressors for inland and coastal European wetlands based on existing knowledge. This will guide landscape transformation towards the local reversal of degradation, recovery of ecosystem functions and increased resilience against future changes in environment and climate.

WP6: WP6 will ensure the effective development, planning and execution of wide-scale restoration of wetlands across the WaterLANDS network of Action Sites.

The post holder will be the internal leader for these two work packages, he/she will:

- Lead technical and monitoring activities;
- Take an active role in community engagement (e.g. stakeholder workshops, citizen science projects, periodic workshops);
- Supervise any interns and provide guidance to younger members of the team, collaborate constructively with the whole of WahV especially those engaged in other WL WPs.

Background & experience

Required qualifications

- 3 years of experience in vegetative ecosystem restoration
- Phd in biology / ecology / environmental science / botany / zoology and other similar subjects preferred; environmental engineering considered
- Knowledge of wetland ecology
- Proven track record of experimental work in wetlands
- Strong knowledge of ecosystem services (especially carbon sequestration)
- Proven track record of experimental and monitoring plans design
- GIS knowledge (basic as the minimum requirement)
- Strong leadership and project management skills
- Collaborative approach
- High proficiency in both Italian and English

Preferred characteristics

- Be confident on boats / boat driving experience
- Flexible and willing to perform other tasks within the range of WahV activities
- Use of computer programs such as R / Python
- Flexible working hours

3) Application process

Applications and related documents, under penalty of exclusion, must be received no later than 12 noon on 12/06/2023 at the following email address: info@weareherevenice.org with the object as follow: "Senior Ecologist - job application".

The e-mail must, under penalty of exclusion, contain the following documents as attachments

1) Curriculum vitae, in Italian and/or English, respecting the standards of the European format, dated and digitally signed by the candidate or signed with a handwritten signature on the last page.

The Curriculum Vitae must also include the authorisation to process personal data pursuant to art. 13 of Reg. 2016/679/EU - GDPR and the declaration of truthfulness of the statements made and data indicated pursuant to Presidential Decree no. 445/2000 and subsequent amendments and additions.

2) a copy in PDF format of a valid identity document.

3) contact details of two referees

The electronic documents must be named as follows:

- Surname and First Name - CV;

- Surname and First Name - copy of Identity Document (in case of handwritten signature).

4) Selection

The Commission of this Notice will carry out a comparative assessment of the applications for the individual job profiles, in compliance with the principles of non-discrimination, equal treatment, proportionality and transparency.

The comparative procedure will take place in two stages.

- First stage: assessment on the basis of the CV
- Second stage: interviews

At the end of the first stage, each candidate will be notified, at the address he/she has elected for the purposes of this procedure, at least 5 working days in advance, of the date and place where the interview will take place.

The candidates not having heard back from WahV by the 1st of July should consider their applications not successful.

5) Contract

The person selected must be able to work independently as a freelancer (i.e. have a VAT number or undertake to acquire one before signing the contract).

The expected hours per month are: 32-48 (i.e. 4-6 days a month) from 1st of July 2023 (tentative date)

It will be possible to agree with WahV to work part of the hours remotely, depending on the month's activities.

6) Remuneration

An all-inclusive remuneration in the range of €20-30/hour, on the basis of the candidate's experience.

7) Outcome of the procedure

At the conclusion of the selection procedure, WahV will proceed, at its sole discretion, to agree a freelance contract.

Data protection

As WaterLANDS is a European Union Horizon 2020 project, your personal data is managed and protected by the WaterLANDS Data Management Plan (DMP).



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