



Position Title: Mangrove Specialist, Mangrove Capital Africa

Type of contract: Fixed-Term contract

Duty station: Nyamisati, Rufiji Delta, Tanzania

Project: Mangrove Capital Africa

Supervisor: Project Manager

Reference: TZ/MCA/MS/03

Background

Tropical mangroves are among the most productive and valuable ecosystems on earth. They provide millions of people with food, clean water and raw materials. Healthy mangroves harbour many iconic species, such as manatees, sea turtles and millions of migratory birds. These unique wetlands act as buffers against storms, tsunamis and sea-level rise, making them vital for coastal communities threatened by climate change. And yet, in spite of their huge value to society, Africa's mangroves are facing dramatic challenges. Causes of mangrove loss and degradation range from agriculture developments for rice and large-scale irrigation schemes, to oil and gas exploitation and bauxite mining. Ill-planned infrastructure developments for ports, harbours and cities add to the pressures. Vulnerable local communities, who depend on mangroves for their livelihoods, end up overexploiting them for fish and timber in the absence of alternative income sources. On top of all this, the effects of human-induced climate change also loom.

Wetlands International is dedicated to safeguarding and restoring wetlands for people and nature. We have worked for many years with local communities, NGOs and governments all over the world to safeguard and restore mangroves. We have empowered local people by helping them develop alternative mangrove economies and sustainable management strategies. We have influenced governments to integrate mangrove capital into their thinking. We have also worked in partnership with the private sector to develop mitigating approaches to development. However, we recognise these efforts are not enough to halt and reverse the degradation of Africa's mangroves.

Recognizing these challenges, the 10-year Mangrove Capital Africa Programme (MCA) charts a new approach that can upscale successful strategies and ensure their autonomous seeding and replication along East and West Africa's coasts. In Eastern Africa, the initial focusing will be on the Rufiji Delta in Tanzania. The Rufiji Delta hosts East Africa's largest concentration of mangrove and nearly half of Tanzania's. Since 2005, it has been designated part of the Rufiji-Mafia-Kilwa (RUMAKI) Ramsar site. It

supports a wide diversity of flora and fauna typifying African mangroves. Wetlands International will implement an integrated, long-term programme to create a tipping point where governments, the private sector, practitioners and land use managers, civil society and local inhabitants all understand the values of mangroves and work together to protect them.

MCA vision is that:

Mangroves and their biodiversity are healthy, improving the livelihoods of millions of people and protecting them against the dangers of climate change.

It will consist of four building blocks to achieve the following objectives:

- **ACT:** Mangrove management and rehabilitation, and sustainable livelihood activities are supported in 10 threatened mangrove sites and scaled up by local stakeholders;
- **KNOW:** Knowledge about the functions, values and threats to mangroves in Africa is compiled and made publically available as a basis for improved coastal zone management;
- **LEARN:** CSOs and coastal zone managers from government and the private sector in 10 countries are aware of the values of mangroves and are able to conserve and restore them as part of broader development plans;
- **PLAN:** Policies and plans at local, national and regional levels support conservation, restoration and wise use of mangroves and prevent mangrove destruction from large-scale developments.

Tasks and Responsibilities of the Mangrove Specialist

Under the authority of the Regional Director, the Eastern Africa Eco-Region Lead and the Project Manager, the Mangrove Specialist will assist in the implementation of the mangrove conservation and management activities. He/ she will have the following specific tasks:

- Contribute to the characterization of the local mangrove zones: physical framework, dynamics in the presence, etc;
- Support local communities in setting up simple tools / tools for collecting, processing and monitoring / monitoring data on local mangroves;
- Validate the sites to be rehabilitated and ensure a follow-up of these spaces by ensuring the well documented (database);
- Assist in assessing the impacts of human activities on maintaining or reducing mangrove cover;
- Support the promotion of livelihoods for mangrove conservation;
- Participate in the establishment and operation of "Mangrove Watch";
- Participate in the monitoring / evaluation of project activities;
- To strengthen the capacity of the beneficiary communities for the rational use of mangroves (to conduct training sessions, etc.);
- Support the drafting of terms of reference for the planned basic studies;
- Contribute to knowledge management aspects of project activities.

Required Skills and Qualifications

The Mangrove Specialist shall have strong skills, knowledge and extensive experience in implementing Mangrove conservation projects in Tanzania, preferably in the Rufiji Delta. In addition the ideal candidate shall fulfill the following requirements:

- A Masters Degree in Natural Resources Management, Environmental Sciences or a related field;
- More than 5 years professional experience in a similar position;

- Good knowledge of mangroves in general (opportunities and threats) and on the production paths compatible with the sustainability of mangrove ecosystems;
- Knowledge of planting / nursery techniques and assisted natural regeneration of mangroves;
- Must be computer literate including the proficient use of Word, Outlook, Excel, PowerPoint and GIS software;
- Experience in preparation of technical and financial implementation reports;
- Excellent oral and written English and Swahili communication skills and ability to communicate to a variety of audiences;
- Ability to work under pressure and to prioritize and meet deadlines;
- Proven ability to work in teams in a multi-cultural environment;
- Willingness to travel.

Interested Candidates, apply by sending a curriculum vitae and a covering letter to the following email address: hr@wetlands-africa.org with the title of the position plus the reference as mail subject before 29th April 2017 at 05 PM.

NB: Only selected Candidates will be contacted