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**Job Title: Stakeholder Engagement Officer**

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| **Theme:** | Engagement (Research and Action) |
| **Job Title:** | **Stakeholder Engagement Officer** |
| **Salary:** | £28,756 - £34,304 per annum + pension *(negotiable for the right candidate)* |
| **Hours of work:** | 35 hours per week to include some weekend working as required |
| **Contract:** | Permanent (subject to funding) with 31 days’ leave entitlement |
| **Location:** | Bridgend |

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| **Introduction** | Project Seagrass is an environmental charity (CIO) devoted to the conservation of seagrass ecosystems through education, influence, research and action. Our mission is to lead societal change to enable the recognition, recovery and resilience of seagrass ecosystems globally; that provide biodiversity, equitable and sustainable livelihoods, and planetary life support. |
| **Background information**  | The charity has experienced rapid growth over the past two years with an annual turnover for the last financial year in excess of £800,000. During this time, the charity has expanded to its current staff complement of 17 with additional associates making up the Project Seagrass team. |
| **Main Purpose of Post** | The Stakeholder Engagement Officer will work with a broad range of stakeholders to support the delivery of integrated programmes of research and action for seagrass protection and restoration that fit within the strategy and address the aims of Project Seagrass. The Officer will work across multiple projects and be responsible for devising and delivering engagement programmes in the Solent and North Wales, whilst supporting activities in Edinburgh. They will also play a role in project and research work in areas of social science relevant to seagrass.This position is advertised at a very exciting time for seagrass conservation and restoration where numerous projects are starting, and as a result this position provides a huge opportunity to drive forward activities to be beneficial to people given the role that seagrass meadows play as complex social ecological systems. |
| **General Duties** | * Work closely with stakeholders from multiple sectors to support the aims of Project Seagrass. This will include extensive fieldwork across multiple UK restoration sites.
* Provide scientific leadership to seagrass site assessments from an integrated social-ecological perspective.
* Conduct primary research in to social and economic factors and governance structures in seagrass carbon management and contribute to formulation of best practice for future seagrass blue carbon research.
* Interrogate how different governance frameworks and institutional contexts, will impact seagrass carbon schemes
* Prepare reports, draft patents and papers describing the results of the research, both confidential and for publication.
* Actively engage in the writing and publishing of research papers, particularly those intended for publication in refereed (eg international) journals or comparable.
* Creatively analyse and interpret research data and draw conclusions on the outcomes.
* Interact positively and professionally with other collaborators and partners across industry/commerce and academia.
* Contribute pro-actively to the development of external funding applications; actively engage in writing or contributing to writing such applications.
* Contribute to the charity’s organisational matters to help it run smoothly and to help raise its external research profile.
* Keep informed of developments in the field in both technical and specific terms and the wider subject area and the implication for commercial applications and the knowledge economy or academia.
* When requested act as a representative or member of committees.
* Maintain and enhance links with all interested stakeholders, professional institutions and other related bodies.
* Observe best-practice protocols in maintenance and retention of research and engagement records
* Be self-motivated, apply and use initiative and seek guidance when needed.
* Develop professionally by keeping your skills, knowledge and networks up to date.
* Take up and engage with offers of training.
* Attend meetings as the role requires.
* Participate in organisational events.
* Conduct the job role and all activities in accordance with our safety, health and sustainability policies and management systems.
* Promote equality and diversity in working practices and maintain positive working relationships.
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| **Person Specification** | **Essential Criteria:****Values:*** Demonstrable evidence of taking pride in delivering professional services and solutions.
* Ability to work together in an environment of equality, trust and respect.
* A commitment to improving the environment for planet and people and acting in a responsible environmental manner.
* Passion for marine conservation and the protection and enhancement of our marine environment.

**Qualification:*** A Degree (preferably Masters or above) in marine social sciences or equivalent.

**Experience:*** Experience in effective stakeholder and community engagement at local, regional and national scales.
* Experience in mixed methods and interdisciplinary approaches.
* Evidence of the ability to actively engage in and contribute to writing and publishing reports and/or research papers.
* Evidence of the capacity to design and deliver multi-sector engagement strategies.

**Knowledge, Skills and Willingness:*** Significant ability to work independently with focus and direction.
* Willingness to undertake further training.
* Be willing to relocate to South Wales.

**Desirable Criteria:*** Expertise in marine social sciences, marine and coastal ecosystem services, ocean literacy and ocean governance.
* Experience of working on seagrass as a social-ecological system.
* Experience of eliciting public perceptions of marine and coastal environments.
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| **Additional Information** | Applications are invited based on a 2-page CV and 2 page covering letter by email to **emma.p@projectseagrass.org**. Please include in the email details of 2 referees from recent employment.Informal enquiries: Informal enquiries are welcome and can be directed to Dr Leanne Cullen-Unsworth via email: leanne@projectseagrass.orgApplication Deadline: **Close of business on Friday, 13th January**Interviews to be held on Wednesday / Thursday of the following week. |