

JOB VACANCY - Communications Officer

Current food and agricultural systems face major environmental, climate and health challenges, while struggling to respond to the challenges of food and nutrition security. The **Coalition for food systems' transformation through agroecology** (Agroecology Coalition or AE Coalition for short) was created in 2021 at the margins of the UN Food Systems Summit in order to address these multiple challenges and accelerate food systems' transformation. The Coalition includes 39 countries and 73 organizations, including UN agencies, farmers' organizations, indigenous organizations, civil society organizations, research organizations, and philanthropies (for a full list of members see <https://agroecology-coalition.org/>).

Role

Operating an independent program, the **Secretariat of the Agroecology Coalition** is hosted by **Bioversity International**¹ in Rome, Italy.

On behalf of the Agroecology Coalition, Bioversity International is looking for a **Communications Officer** to amplify the visibility of the AE Coalition's work to a range of audiences (including Coalition members, civil society groups, media, and policymakers). The Communications Officer will report to the Agroecology Coalition Coordinator.

Key responsibilities:

- Devising and implementing a general communications strategy for the Coalition secretariat;
- Strengthening branding and visual identity for the AE Coalition;
- Facilitating and supporting the work of the Communication/Advocacy working group, including planning and organizing WG meetings in collaboration with WG facilitators, providing meeting reports and monitoring the follow-up action by WG members;
- Coordinating with partners, facilitating group processes, and fostering partner communications;
- Drafting press releases, op eds and newsletters;
- Setting up Social Media accounts and ensuring regular SM outputs;
- Managing and updating the AE Coalition website;
- Planning and coordinating communication outputs (e.g. webinars, factsheets, reports, promotional videos, etc.);
- Building, expanding & updating a media database; handling media enquiries and making contacts with journalists for public events;
- Monitoring global debates on food and farming issues, and identifying opportunities for using those debates to amplify the AE Coalition messages.

¹ Bioversity International is an International Research Centre. For further information on Bioversity International, consult the website at <https://alliancebioversityciat.org/>

Requirements:

- Minimum 5-6 years experience in a full-time, policy-related communications role;
- Fluency in written and spoken English;
- Master's level qualifications or BSc with equivalent work experience in a relevant field (e.g. Communications, Journalism, Media Studies, Political Science, Development Studies, Environmental Science, Food & agriculture-related topics);
- To be a proven self-starter;
- Good working knowledge of relevant global policy debates (e.g. on food security, climate change, biodiversity, sustainable development); proven ability to grasp complex issues under time pressure;
- Extensive knowledge of/familiarity with collaborative work programmes and information-sharing software (e.g. Dropbox, Google drive, Slack, etc.), content management systems (Wordpress, Joomla, Drupal, etc.), newsletter management systems (Mailchimp, Substack, etc.) and online communication tools (Zoom, GoToMeeting etc.);
- Proven ability to develop strong working relationships with people/partners from different backgrounds and sectors;
- Excellent ability to write engagingly and succinctly for different audiences and platforms and communicate clearly on complex topics;
- Proven ability to co-develop strategies with colleagues, and to work autonomously on delivering them;
- Proven experience in managing social media accounts;
- Proven ability to prioritize a range of different tasks under time pressure;
- Personal and professional commitment to sustainability.

Desirable:

- Proficiency of graphic software (Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign);
- Basic knowledge of HTML coding;
- In-depth knowledge of food, agriculture and agroecology;
- Proficiency/fluency in other languages (esp. Spanish and French);
- Knowledge of data protection rules; experience of managing email servers.

Terms and Conditions

This is a locally recruited position which will be based in Rome, Italy. All benefits are denominated and paid in Euro. The salary is level 9, in a scale of 14 levels, with level 14 being the highest. The salary range starts from Euro 47,100 per annum. The remuneration package includes a competitive salary, leave provisions, medical and life insurance, and non-contributory retirement plan. The contract will be for a period of 2 years, subject to a probationary period of 6 months, and is renewable based on performance and availability of funds. Please note this position is only open to citizens and residents of the European Union.



Applications

Please apply online through the website no later than **21 October 2022**, attaching a letter of application with names and email addresses of at least three referees, and a curriculum vitae, both in English. Please note that only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

Closing date for applications: 21 October 2022

We invite you to learn more about us at:

<https://agroecology-coalition.org/>

Please visit the careers page at:

<https://alliancebioiversityciat.org/careers>

