

## **Africa Program Communications Officer**

Pretoria, South Africa

International Rivers envisions a world where healthy rivers and the rights of local communities are valued and protected. Since 1985, International Rivers has been at the heart of the global struggle to protect rivers and the rights of communities that depend on them. Armed with on the ground evidence and cutting edge research, International Rivers mobilizes civil society and communities to advocate for improved river basin governance, transparent and accountable energy infrastructure, and human rights. We have been the driving force behind iconic campaigns to protect the world's great rivers from harmful projects and pioneered global policy solutions. We are a global organization headquartered in Berkeley, California supporting regional offices in Asia, South America and Africa.

International Rivers is looking for a communications officer with strong networking skills to implement communications and outreach plans and activities. The communications officer will be located in Pretoria, South Africa, and will work with the Africa Team and our partner organizations primarily in Africa.

This is a one-year contract with possibilities of a longer term engagement. The position involves occasional international and domestic travel. The communications officer reports to the Africa Program Director in our Pretoria office.

### **Key Responsibilities**

**1 Media work and other communications:** Design and implement a robust communications strategy to support regional and organizational program work. Respond to media inquiries and carry out national and international media work. Write articles, commentaries, blog posts and reports, produce social media content, and maintain the Africa Program's web pages.

**2. Research and analysis:** Research, monitor and analyze the strategies, policies and projects of international dam builders and financiers for formulating key messages. In coordination with the Africa team and US-based communications director, draft press releases and key messages; and develop positions on crosscutting topics relevant for International Rivers' work.

**3. Advocacy work:** Support the Africa program in campaigns against destructive dams, promotion of clean renewable energy and dam-affected people's rights' realization. Carry out information dissemination for appropriate solutions for the continent's water and energy needs. Develop and nurture relations with media outlets.

4. **Capacity building:** Share information on our work with civil society groups and networks, assist in publishing reports and fact-sheets, and help organize trainings and other workshops.

5. **Program coordination:** In coordination with the Africa team, carry out activities to protect rivers ecosystems and dam-affected communities in Africa. Raise awareness about rivers and dams issues.

**Skills and Experience Required: -**

- Demonstrated background implementing effective communications and outreach plans for public interest campaigns;
- Knowledge and understanding of sustainability and human rights issues;
- Excellent research, writing and oral communication skills in English;
- At least three years' experience in communication and advocacy;
- Ability to work both independently and as part of a team;
- Excellent computer skills, including Word, Excel, and web savvy;
- Bachelor's degree or equivalent professional experience required; Master's degree a plus;
- French and/or Portuguese language skills are an added advantage;
- Authorization to work in South Africa.

**About International Rivers:**

International Rivers rewards staff through a combination of exciting and creative work together with a sector-competitive salary and benefits package, high levels of engagement and involvement, and a commitment to your development. Benefits include health care, competitive leave allowance, a sabbatical policy, and opportunities to work in an engaging and friendly environment.

**Application Process:**

In order to be considered for this position, please send your resume, a writing sample, and a cover letter explaining why you would like to work at International Rivers to [jobpost@internationalrivers.org](mailto:jobpost@internationalrivers.org) with “**Africa Communications Officer – [YOUR NAME]**” in the subject line. This position will remain open until filled.

International Rivers is an equal opportunity employer and encourages applications from all qualified candidates regardless of race, color, religious belief, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, disability, age, or other groups as protected by law.