



VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT: AUGUST 2022

Job Title: Senior Communications Officer – Carbon

Supervisor: Chief Communications & Fundraising Officer

Job Location: Aitong', Narok County

Job Grade: F

1. The Organisation

The Maasai Mara Wildlife Conservancies Association (MMWCA)

<http://www.maraconservancies.org/> is a membership organisation of the Mara conservancies, open to any existing or upcoming wildlife conservancy whose land is part of or integral to the greater Maasai Mara ecosystem. MMWCA is one of the Kenya Wildlife Conservancies Association's members (<http://kwcakenya.com/>), contributing to the growth and development of conservancies nationally. MMWCA serves to meet three primary objectives:

- i. Provide a convening space for open discussions; a hub for knowledge sharing and coordination across conservancies; a voice for advocacy; and driving policy in the interest of conservancies and conservation-related issues across the Mara.
- ii. Support the creation and development of conservancies and their neighbouring areas across the greater Mara ecosystem as a sustainable form of land use and provide mechanisms for equitable and value-based benefit sharing to sustain land under conservation.
- iii. Lead and/or implement development and conservation programmes across member conservancies to facilitate coordination, collaboration and synergetic action.

MMWCA is looking for a Senior Communications Officer – Carbon for the One Mara Carbon Project, based in the Greater Mara Ecosystem.

2. Overall Purpose

The Senior Communications Officer – Carbon is MMWCA’s focal point for stakeholders’ engagement for the One Mara Carbon Project. The Project is considered a potential additional source of revenue for the Mara Conservancies set to strengthen the existing conservancy model, which is mainly dependent on tourism. The Senior Communications Officer – Carbon will coordinate community engagement to help conservancies and MMWCA set up the One Mara Project successfully.

3. Scope of Work

- a. Review and internalise technical issues related to One Mara Carbon project to inform decisions and strategy.
- b. Act as One Mara Carbon knowledge custodian within MMWCA and an information point of reference by other organisations and stakeholders.
- c. Contribute to the One Mara Carbon Project strategy and overall MMWCA strategy.
- d. Working closely with the Chief Communications and Fundraising Officer, develop and implement the One Mara Carbon Project communication strategy to facilitate inclusive and effective communication and participation of all critical stakeholders (including under-represented groups).
- e. Lead awareness activities on the One Mara Carbon Project, including developing Information, Education and Communication materials, and help stakeholders build knowledge around the concept of carbon financing and distinctly outline the roles the conservancies and landowners need to play to enhance the success of the Project.
- f. Coordinate exposure tours and reciprocal knowledge exchanges with other landscapes that are implementing carbon-financing initiatives.
- g. Coordinate participatory planning engagements for conservancies’ managements and landowners’ representatives for Project Activities.
- h. Generate up-to-date briefs, working closely with the Project Proponent and Carbon Project technical lead(s).
- i. Develop and maintain a stakeholders’ map for the Project and ensure transparent information flow between stakeholders.

- j. Contribute to the development of MMWCA's the annual work plan and generate periodic implementation reports in close consultation with the One Mara Carbon Project Proponent.
- k. Assist in managing relevant donor budgets and expenditures, generating and submitting donor reports on time in line with institutional and donor requirements.
- l. Learn and implement the Stakeholder Approach to Risk-Informed and Evidence-based Decision-making (SHARED) framework developed by the World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF) for evidence-based decision-making.
- m. Ensure free prior informed consent standards are developed, documented, and maintained for all One Mara Carbon Project activities.
- n. Synthesis of feedback and participatory planning outcomes from workshops into strategies that can help improve programmes for MMWCA and the One Mara Carbon Project.

4. **Desired Qualifications**

- a. A Degree in Communications or Social Sciences such as Sociology, Anthropology and Education, or Environmental Science or related disciplines.
- b. Five years' experience in a similar role, preferably in the conservation sector. Working on a carbon project or climate change is desirable but not mandatory.
- c. Demonstrable experience in stakeholder management and developing effective audience-tailored messages at various levels.
- d. Extensive experience in workshop facilitation and ability to synthesise workshop outcomes into clear, actionable points.
- e. Ability to work under pressure with minimal supervision with demonstrable experience meeting tight reporting timelines.
- f. Proficiency in Maa (Maasai language) will be an added advantage.
- g. Self-confident and well rounded, with the capacity to understand multiple perspectives and cultural diversity and deal with those differences diplomatically.
- h. Ability/willingness to work in a remote place – the job will be based at Aitong' in the Maasai Mara.

5. How to Apply

Send an application to the Chief Executive Officer, Maasai Mara Wildlife Conservancies, to reach us by close of business on August 30th 2022, to recruitment@maraconservancies.org. A complete application will have the following:

- i. A cover letter.
- ii. A detailed curriculum vitae highlighting relevant experience.
- iii. A daytime telephone contact, email address, and the names of three professional referees.