

Youth Engagement Specialist

JOB TITLE:	Youth Engagement Specialist
REPORTS TO:	Chief Communications Specialist
UNIT MEMBERS:	Communications and Knowledge Team
STARTING DATE:	At the earliest possible date; or as agreed upon
DURATION:	1 year, with possible renewal
LOCATION:	Stockholm (or other GWP location if appropriate)
SALARY CATEGORY:	F/Specialist
APPLY BY:	February 17, 2019

ABOUT GWP

The Global Water Partnership (GWP) is a multi-stakeholder platform supported by a global secretariat that was established as an intergovernmental organization to support countries in their efforts to implement a more equitable and sustainable management of their water resources. The GWP network spans 13 regions with more 60 country water partnerships and over 3,000 institutional Partners in 180+ countries. The global secretariat is hosted by the GWP Organisation (GWPO) located in Stockholm, Sweden. More information: www.gwp.org. The secretariat is comprised of a dynamic team of 25+ staff and consultants who work to support GWP's Regional Water Partnerships, Country Water Partnerships and institutional partners, as well as all GWP's stakeholders. GWPO is looking to identify a highly motivated and creative development professional to lead and build up the network's global activities to mobilize Youth for water resources management. As part of the Communications & Knowledge Team, the Youth Engagement Specialist will support Youth Engagement Programs across the Network, through coordination, learning and fundraising initiatives, including by building a global program. S/he will also mobilize broad ownership for the Youth Agenda across the entire Network.

With the long-term nature of the solutions promoted by GWP comes a special responsibility to include Youth in their design and implementation. 30% of the global population is below the age of 24. Youth voices, actions and solutions, as well as their reach and willingness to act, are all essential if sustainable development is to be achieved. To date, organizations with a specific focus on youth make up less than 2% of GWP's partnership base, and some Water Partnerships face challenges in mobilizing motivating young people to participate in formal water governance decision-making processes. GWP's Global Secretariat and Country and Regional Water Partnerships have therefore worked more and more to mobilize and involve Youth – both individually and as groups. In 2015, GWP adopted a [Youth Engagement Strategy](#) and initiated a drive to grow the portfolio of activities supporting Youth participation in water resources management, including efforts to raise awareness, to offer training and the building of international networks, and to mobilize technical assistance and funding for youth-led water projects (e.g. through the [Youth for Water and Climate](#) platform). Targeting both young water professionals and young people whose interest in water could be derived through broader development contexts, activities include also partnering with global and regional youth organizations,

as well as with universities and schools. Currently embarking on a new strategy, GWP is staffing up to further mobilize Youth to participate in and contribute to good water management and governance.

SCOPE OF POSITION

The scope of the Youth Engagement Specialist's activities includes amongst others:

1. **Strategy and workplan:** Within the context of GWP's emerging new strategy, the Youth Engagement Specialist will develop and deliver, together with colleagues across the GWP secretariat and Regional and Country Teams, a global workplan of activities for youth engagement; this will include taking and/or sharing accountability for specific activities, tracking and reporting, building and sustaining relevant partnerships; individual activities may be outward oriented or internal in that they would support GWP regional teams on their approaches for youth engagement.
2. **Community of Practice for Youth Engagement:** The Youth Engagement Specialist will reach out, primarily across the GWP network but also well beyond, working with – and possibly bringing together – professionals working on youth engagement, with the aim to enhance quality and effectiveness of youth engagement activities undertaken through knowledge sharing and synergies.
3. **GWP Summer Schools:** Together with Cap-Net (www.cap-net.org) and GWP's Central and Eastern European region, the Youth Engagement Specialist will co-lead collaborative efforts to support the further development of GWP Summer Schools, with the overall goal to raise awareness, motivate and incentivize engagement, and to build a network of young people who come together through the shared experience of their participation in such events. The type and nature of this engagement will evolve over time, depending on resource availability and opportunities to collaborate.
4. **Amplifying the Voice of Youth-led Initiatives:** The Youth Engagement Specialist will further develop, together with others, approaches to help amplify the voice of Youth-led Programs and Activities/Initiatives. This will include globally visible events, initiatives or campaigns, including but not limited to **the Youth for Water and Climate Program (YWC)**. YWC is both a partnership and a web-based platform through which youth-led project teams seek funding and technical assistance for their work; the program is currently being re-designed, and the Youth Engagement Specialist will be involved in and co-lead the next steps for the program.
5. **Fundraising for GWP's Youth Program.** The Youth Engagement Specialist will contribute to and lead fund-raising efforts for GWP's Youth Program by working with GWP's resource mobilization team in researching donor and funding partner requirements and identifying opportunities, developing relations with donors and funding partners in collaboration with the Management team, and coordinating the preparation of proposals.
6. **Communication and reporting:** In supporting knowledge exchange across the Community, the Youth Engagement Specialist will also occasionally prepare reports and communication products on activities as appropriate.

As part of the global secretariat, the Youth Engagement Specialist will be called upon, on and off, to support GWP's leadership in strategy development and planning efforts, representation and other forms of contributions and engagement. The teams working on other thematic priorities – climate change adaptation through water, transboundary water cooperation, or SDG6 implementation

support – may also seek insight or support from the Youth Engagement Specialist to guide and strengthen their efforts to mobilize youth within their programs.

Reporting to GWP’s Chief Communications Specialist, the position is part of GWP’s Communications and Knowledge Team and works closely and in-step together with the GWP Network Operations team. The Youth Engagement Specialist will work in close collaboration with other colleagues working on youth initiatives and activities in both teams.

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

Technical requirements

- Advanced university degree (masters or equivalent) in international affairs, communications, business, environmental studies or a related field.
- At least 5 years of relevant experience in working in the broader sector of sustainable development.
- Experience working for an NGO, international organisation or development agency in a multi-cultural setting, with a youth engagement focus.
- It would be a plus if the applicant had knowledge or experience in:
 - Knowledge of the water sector and of global water related processes; and/or
 - Experience in proposal development and fundraising
- Excellent communications and writing skills with total fluency in English. Proficiency in languages other than English – French and/ or Spanish, as well as Arabic, Chinese or Russian - is an advantage.
- Strong ability to work efficiently and effectively in a multicultural context and with team members in various locations and from multiple organisations.
- Strong ability to describe technical, policy or programmatic issues in an intuitively understandable way; ability to integrate different experiences, methodologies, and approaches from a diverse range of stakeholders from multiple sectors

Not technical

- Youth engagement: Young professionals under 35 years old are particularly encouraged to apply. You should otherwise have worked extensively with Youth initiatives over the past years.
- Professionalism: Demonstrating and safeguarding ethics and integrity. Demonstrates organizational awareness, self-development and initiative-taking. Ability to work in a multi-cultural and international environment based on mutual respect and tolerance. Ability to exercise good judgement, discretion and tact in handling sensitive issues.
- Planning and Organizing: Excellent organizational and task management skills, with appropriate attention to details and ability to prioritize work among multiple competing demands, and under tight deadlines. Ability to manage multiple workflows at the same time. Ability to thrive in a fast-paced work environment where adaptability is essential.
- E-literacy: Excellent e-skills, including the ability to use modern office technology and related software. Ability to do internet research, compile information and find solutions online to information gaps is essential. Ability to use social media for online engagement.

- Teamwork: Supports colleagues, contributes to team culture, and shares responsibility for decision-making and results. Places team agenda before personal agenda. Supports and acts in accordance with final group decision; shares credit for team accomplishments and accepts joint responsibility. Ability to “lead from behind” and work without direct authority to deliver timely and high quality products.
- Personal: A good sense of humor. Love for nature, its beauty and its resources. Willingness to 'get the job' done with a positive attitude to take on a wide range of tasks. Availability for longer travel to attend international meetings.

Please note:

Professionals with a background from and/or living and working in Asian, African, Eastern European, Latin American, or Middle Eastern countries are particularly encouraged to apply.

GWP offers competitive remuneration as well as an attractive work environment, with flat hierarchies and fast decisions, and with great opportunities for professional exposure and growth. The position, while new with GWP, is expected to be a long-term assignment and part of the core team. The contract is initially offered for 1-2 years for administrative reasons.

Please send in your CV along with a motivation letter to vacancy@gwp.org, by 17th February.