

Science Communication Specialist

Vacancy – Terms of reference

Job description

JOB TITLE: Science Communication Specialist

PURPOSE: Support the Chief Communication Officer and LifeWatch ERIC to reach out to scientific disseminative media, produce dissemination contents for related European projects and initiatives, update and manage the LifeWatch ERIC Community and Citizen Science Platforms, as well as expand the infrastructure's reach in the latter sector, contributing to the implementation of the communication strategy and performance tracking.

LOCATION: LifeWatch ERIC Service Centre premises in Lecce (Italy).

POSITION: Full-time, max 12 months (possibility of renewal).

Main responsibilities

- I. S/he will work under the supervision of, and directly report to, the Chief Communication Officer for the communication activities of LifeWatch ERIC, supporting the implementation of the Communication Strategy and the outline of plans for projects and initiatives, providing ad-hoc scientific support to the LifeWatch ERIC Communication Team, in particular in approaching the researchers' target group, by providing suitable content, fostering public relations, etc.;



II. S/he will take care of media relations with disseminative publications, in the field of biological sciences with a particular focus on biodiversity and ecosystem research. S/he will be adept at identifying and writing stories that are likely to generate media interest, with a good understanding of the news agenda and ability to keep abreast of current affairs;

III. S/he will support communications for EU projects that LifeWatch ERIC is involved in, for example, by liaising with the LifeWatch ERIC project manager and consortium, supporting the creation of websites and related content, organising events and campaigns, etc., and contributing to the drafting of communication work packages and project proposals;

IV. S/he will support the LifeWatch ERIC Service Centre in the launch, set-up and management of its Citizen Science Platform, s/he will work closely with the Scientific Community Networking Officer in promoting infrastructure-related services towards relevant projects and initiatives in the citizen science domain;

V. S/he will support the LifeWatch ERIC Service Centre in the launch, set-up and management of its Community Platform, s/he will work closely with the Scientific Community Networking Officer in promoting infrastructure related services towards relevant scientific communities;

VI. S/he will contribute to the organisation of scientific events and LifeWatch ERIC's participation in exhibitions and major conferences, taking care of designing and selecting scientific contents and programmes;

VII. S/he will support the Chief Communication Officer and Administration in the definition and monitoring of the communication budget, its related contracts and outputs, as well as related KPIs.

The ideal candidate should meet the following requirements

- A university degree or equivalent qualifications in Environmental Sciences, or other

relevant field;

- At least 3 years of accredited professional experience in communications at European level in research infrastructures, universities, agencies, European institutions or international organisations, on international projects and initiatives;
- Accredited experience in liaising with media, with own media contact list, and/or as a science journalist;
- Accredited professional experience in the communication of science and citizen science, in particular in the area of biodiversity and ecosystem research and bioinformatics;
- Advanced experience in WordPress management and updates, as well as experience with primary software packages for tracking performances and analytics;
- Excellence in writing and editing, as well as spoken fluency in English (native speaker or certified C1/C2 level). Skills in other European languages (in particular Italian) are desirable;
- Knowledge of Adobe Creative Suite (Illustrator, Photoshop, InDesign) and MS Office (Word, Excel, Power Point);
- Proven organisation and communicative skills, capable of working in teams and to tight deadlines, in international environments and in multi-language contexts;
- Availability to travel abroad according to the specific working needs of this position.

The vacancy is subject to the following procedure

- A short covering letter and Curriculum Vitae¹ (EUROPASS format, 4 pages at the most)

¹ *Special note for Italian market: According to Italian Privacy Protection Law n. 196/03 any resume not mentioning explicitly the following wording: 'I authorise the use of my personal data in accordance with Italian Privacy Protection Law (30/06/2003, n. 196/03)' will be automatically deleted from our database and consequently not taken into consideration.*



shall be written in English and addressed to the Chief Communication Officer using this form by **20 May 2022**: <https://zfrmz.eu/Og2OB7GJZidu2PMf9Lif>

- Only shortlisted candidates will be re-contacted by **27 May 2022**;
- Candidates may be called for an interview with the LifeWatch ERIC Chief Communication Officer and Service Centre Director and asked to undertake appropriate tests. Interviews will take place from **3 – 5 June, 2022**;
- S/he will be appointed for a 12-month period. A competitive gross salary, 33,000€ – 38,000€ based on the qualifications and experience of the candidate, will be offered. Employment will be in Italy and will follow Italian employment law;
- This position is full-time. The office will be located at the Service Centre premises in Lecce, subject to the establishment of other locations in the future;
- Start date in the office for the appointed Science Communication Specialist will be: **20 June 2022**.

LifeWatch ERIC is an equal opportunity employer, and encourages all qualified candidates to apply, regardless of race, gender, age, national origin, or sexual orientation.