

# JOB ANNOUNCEMENT



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Washington, DC 20005  
[www.verra.org](http://www.verra.org)

**Job Title:** Program Officer, Landscape Standard

**Location:** Washington, DC strongly preferred

**Start Date:** Immediate hire

**Reports to:** Manager, Landscape Standard

Verra seeks a Program Officer, Landscape Standard to assist with designing and implementing the Landscape Standard (LS), in cooperation with a consortium of partners (including Rainforest Alliance (RA), the Climate, Community and Biodiversity Alliance (CCBA) and others). The Program Officer will support the below functions related primarily to developing the core framework for the LS.

The ideal candidate will have **strong technical understanding of sustainability issues** and concepts, **demonstrated experience conducting web-based research and literature review** and organizing results, and an **ability to work in a self-directed manner** while incorporating input from across our internal and external team.

## About Verra

Verra supports climate action and sustainable development through the development and management of standards, tools and programs that credibly, transparently and robustly assess environmental and social impacts, and drive funding for sustaining and scaling up these benefits. As a mission-driven, non-profit (NGO) organization, Verra works in any arena where we see a need for clear standards, a role for market-driven mechanisms and an opportunity to achieve environmental and social good.

Verra currently manages a number of global standards frameworks designed to drive finance towards activities that mitigate climate change and promote sustainable development.

## About the Landscape Standard

Sustainable landscape production models – for agricultural, forest and extractive goods – can meet global commodity needs while generating tangible benefits for people and the planet. To support the development of these models, there is a need for a global framework that can measure progress over time, and drive incentives and finance towards sustainable landscapes. The Landscape Standard (LS) is an emerging tool to help drive landscape-scale sustainability.

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The LS will provide measurable indicators of the state and trajectory of sustainability at the landscape level across environmental, social, and economic dimensions.

LS is being developed by a consortium of partners, led by a Secretariat made up of the Climate, Community and Biodiversity Alliance (CCBA), Rainforest Alliance (RA) and Verra, and in cooperation with the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN), the Nature Conservation Research Center (NCRC), Proforest and Solidaridad.

### **Job Responsibilities**

The Program Officer, Landscape Standard will be responsible for supporting Verra-led work to develop the LS framework, in cooperation with partners. In particular, the Program Officer will support:

- Framework Development (60%)
  - Attend and support weekly meetings of the Framework Development Group (FDG, a subset of consortium partners) to take notes, participate in discussions, and manage communications with the FDG;
  - Collate, manage and respond to feedback from pilot partners, technical experts, public reviewers and other LS framework stakeholders to ensure diverse perspectives are heard;
  - Provide research support to inform LS framework development, particularly related to:
    - Tracking and organizing relevant resources (e.g., data sources; new and emerging technologies/methodologies for data collection/measurement; reporting tools/platforms; scientific articles, etc.); and
    - Mapping and staying current with linkages to SDGs and other established or emerging frameworks for landscape, project or supply chain sustainability (e.g., farm-based certification, Science-Based Targets initiative, etc.).
  - Provide support to LS framework document drafting, particularly related to:
    - Incorporating feedback from pilot partners, technical experts, public reviewers and early LS users to improve LS framework documents; and

- Contributing to drafting of LS guidance related to procedural rules and requirements for use of the LS (e.g., data, monitoring, reporting and verification, etc.), and to the principles, criteria and indicators related to environmental, production, socio-economic and governance issues addressed at the landscape scale.
- Knowledge management, communications and coordination support (40%)
  - Support knowledge management to ensure streamlined and effective information flows between LS partners by:
    - Managing file and information structure and keeping sharing settings updated;
    - Providing support on the utilization and adoption of project management tools and platforms as well as other ways to maximize team efficiency, learning, and potential for innovation.
  - Support and manage communications among LS partners and external stakeholders to enhance engagement by:
    - Drafting and distributing communications to LS partners;
    - Supporting development of external communications materials;
    - Providing additional communications support as needed.
  - Provide coordination support to strengthen the LS consortium:
    - Coordinating and providing logistical support for internal and external workshops, meetings and events focused on the development and piloting of the LS framework;
    - Supporting contracting with independent consultants and partners.
- Represent Verra and the Landscape Standard in conferences and other events; and provide other support to the Landscape Standard team as needed

## Qualifications

We are seeking candidates who have **expertise in global and landscape-scale sustainability issues, excellent written and verbal communication skills and attention to detail**, and who are **collaborative team players**. You should have:

- At least 2 years of professional experience, preferably with significant experience working in or with developing countries;
- Bachelor's Degree in a related field, such as forestry, agriculture, natural resources, environmental management, international development or economics;
- Demonstrated experience researching and communicating sustainability challenges and solutions, as well as managing, coordinating, or participating in working groups to gather inputs from diverse stakeholders;
- Strong understanding of sustainability issues (environmental, production, socio-economic, governance) especially at the landscape scale; climate change mitigation, adaptation and resilience concepts; landscape approaches; SDGs; and/or commodity sustainability initiatives;
- Strong management, organizational and planning skills, with the ability to work independently, be persistent, and juggle multiple, sometimes competing priorities;
- Excellent writing and communication skills for diverse audiences, preferably with experience in technical writing (e.g., on policy, science or sustainability topics);
- Demonstrated experience documenting, sharing, and utilizing key knowledge and lessons learned with internal and external partners;
- Technologically agile, with proficiency in MS Office (Outlook, Word, Excel, PowerPoint), Google Suite/Drive, Dropbox and other common apps; and
- Cultural awareness with ability to work with stakeholders and partners from different countries and cultures.

Master's Degree in a related field, such as forestry, agriculture, natural resources, environmental management, international development or economics would be an advantage. Knowledge, prior application of, or experience developing and/or managing standards or certifications, and language ability in Spanish, French, Portuguese or Bahasa Indonesia would also be assets, as would advanced project management, data analysis and/or marketing skills. Additionally, an aptitude for and interest in the strategic power of communications, including social media and tech, would be a bonus.

## How to Apply

Compensation depends on experience and is highly competitive. Verra offers a very attractive benefits package, including 22-30 days of paid time off plus holidays, retirement contributions, access to flexible savings accounts, and a choice of top-tier health plans. Eligibility to work in the United States (i.e., US citizen or holding current work authorization) is required. Remote work (US-based) will be considered in exceptional cases.

To apply, please send us the following:

- Cover letter (not to exceed one page)
- Resume/CV (not to exceed two pages)

All applications should be submitted to Rachel Wallach at [employment@verra.org](mailto:employment@verra.org) and will be considered on a rolling basis.

Verra provides equal opportunity for all job applicants and employees and is committed to providing a work environment free of discrimination. We conduct our recruitment and hiring without regard to race, color, religion, gender identity, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, age, marital status, pregnancy, physical or mental disability, genetics, veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by applicable federal, state, and local law.