

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT



One Thomas Circle, NW
Suite 1050
Washington, DC 20005
www.verra.org

Job Title: Senior Program Officer, REDD+ and AFOLU

Location: Washington, DC preferred, remote possible

Start Date: Immediately

Reports to: Director, REDD+ and AFOLU

A global leader helping to tackle the world's most intractable environmental challenges, Verra, seeks a Senior Program Officer, REDD+ and AFOLU to support our land-based work under the Verified Carbon Standard (VCS).

The ideal candidate will have relevant experience in REDD+ and other AFOLU activities, including an understanding of policy frameworks, REDD+ and AFOLU project types, and knowledge of jurisdictional approaches. The SPO will be detail-oriented, well organized, and have excellent written and verbal communication skills.

About Verra

Verra develops and manages standards that help the private sector, countries, and civil society achieve ambitious sustainable development and climate action goals. Currently, Verra manages the [Verified Carbon Standard \(VCS\) Program](#) and its [Jurisdictional and Nested REDD+ framework \(JNR\)](#), the [Verra California Offset Project Registry \(OPR\)](#), the [Climate, Community & Biodiversity \(CCB\) Standards](#), and the [Sustainable Development Verified Impact Standard \(SD VISta\)](#). Verra is currently developing standards under the Reduce, Recover, and Recycle (3R) Initiative to increase the value of waste plastic and promote its recovery and recycling, and is working on the development of LandScale, an effort to drive sustainability across productive landscapes. Verra's global standards frameworks serve as linchpins for channeling finance towards high-impact activities that tackle some of the most pressing environmental issues of our day.

Job Responsibilities

The SPO, REDD+ and AFOLU will contribute to Verra's land-based work within its existing standards programs. The SPO will:

- Contribute to the team responsible for the management and evolution of all of Verra's nature-based solutions work in existing standards and programs, currently the VCS Program, JNR, the CCB Standards and SD VISta. This will include:
 - Providing input on the future of Verra's land use work within the VCS, as well as non-carbon focused programs like SD VISta, positioning them for success in the context of changing policy dynamics and ensuring they continue to effectively drive finance towards nature-based climate action and sustainable development;



- Providing technical guidance and support to users of Verra programs including project and program developers, methodology developers, validation/verification bodies, and other stakeholders with respect to REDD+, AFOLU and other nature-based solutions;
 - Drafting changes to relevant Verra programs to help maintain the robustness, workability and reputations of Verra's nature-based work;
 - Ensuring the VCS buffer system remains robust and fit for purpose based on the latest data and emerging policy landscape;
 - Managing REDD+ and AFOLU accounting and assessment methodologies being developed under Verra programs;
 - Serving as a subject matter expert within the program team and mentoring and managing the REDD+ related work of more junior staff members
- Contribute to Verra's Innovation team by providing relevant technical input to ensure new standards, methodologies and program innovations are technically sound; and,
 - Collaborate with Verra's Market Development team to help implement changes and improvements to relevant Verra standards, based on feedback from users and other key stakeholders.

Required Qualifications

We are seeking candidates who bring expertise in REDD+ and AFOLU, excel at quickly learning new concepts, interacting with a diverse range of stakeholders, and who have a passion for addressing sustainable development and climate action challenges. Candidates for the Senior Program Officer, REDD+ and AFOLU will possess the following qualifications:

- At least 3 years of professional experience related to REDD+ and/or AFOLU, including policy work, support to jurisdictional programs or carbon project development, preferably working for a standards organization, NGO, government, project developer and/or validation and verification body.
- A university degree in environmental studies/sciences, forestry, sustainable development, or a related field.
- Experience, preferably on-the-ground, in the development and/or implementation of REDD+ and AFOLU-related standards and programs;
- Knowledge of international and domestic REDD+ policy frameworks
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills;



- Strong organizational skills, including the ability to prioritize and work efficiently and effectively under deadlines;
- Dynamic interpersonal skills, capable of maintaining a professional approach and demeanor in high-pressure situations;
- Culturally aware with ability to work well with stakeholders and partners from different countries and cultures; and
- Self-starter with an ability to excel in a professional environment with limited supervision.
- Employees based in the US must be eligible to work in the United States (i.e., US citizen or holding current work authorization).

Preferred Qualifications:

- Graduate degree in forestry, agriculture or other environmental studies/sciences or sustainable development-related field.
- Fluency in a language beyond English, with preference for Spanish, Portuguese, French or Bahasa Indonesia.
- Experience in editing and drafting technical documents.
- Study or work experience in developing countries.

Compensation

Compensation depends on experience and is highly competitive. Verra has established pay bands that are based on market data for comparable positions for each of its jobs. These bands express a salary range and provide a reference point for offers to new hires, raises within a job, and for promotions from one job to another. 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.

How to Apply

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 Sara Mickens at opportunities@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.