



Ocean and Climate Diplomacy Director
Position Description
August 2023

The Organization:

[Oceans 5](#) is an international funders' collaborative dedicated to stopping overfishing, establishing protected areas, and constraining offshore oil and gas development – three of the highest priorities identified by marine scientists. Founded in 2011, the organization has provided over \$150 million in grants, involving more than 130 organizations in 90 regions and countries. Its activities are directed by its Board of Advisors, a group of 22 of the world's leading marine philanthropic institutions. It also houses two directed funds, each dedicated to grant-making in complementary areas of marine conservation. It is staffed by a small group of seasoned professionals in seven countries that speak a dozen languages. Oceans 5 is a sponsored project of [Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors](#).

Oceans 5 prefers policy-oriented projects involving multiple organizations working toward common objectives to improve ocean health. Our projects are designed and selected through a deliberative process involving our Partners and Members. We also support members of our collaborative to strengthen ocean conservation philanthropy. Our website includes descriptions of [current projects](#) and [grantmaking criteria](#).

Our Partners and Members represent a diversity of philanthropic interests, with strong ties to the international ocean conservation community. Our staff is small but extremely knowledgeable and experienced. The organization has a unique ability to respond quickly to time-sensitive opportunities. It is managed with low overhead, efficient administrative procedures, and streamlined decision-making processes.

Ocean and Climate Diplomacy Director:

The Ocean and Climate Diplomacy Director will be a collaborative leader and strategic partner, responsible for a range of activities including project scoping, development, monitoring, and evaluation, as well as providing support to Oceans 5 Partners and Members. The Diplomacy Director will oversee implementation of what is expected to be a significant new restricted fund and will serve on the Oceans 5 senior leadership team. A key focus of the position is developing and resourcing a portfolio of projects, campaigns, and advocates to amplify and elevate the political and diplomatic objectives of international civil society organizations working on ocean and climate issues, including decarbonizing shipping, expanding offshore renewables, implementing the Global Biodiversity Framework, nature/ocean finance, and strengthening the resiliency of the world's ocean and coastal waters.

Adept at international political strategy, the Director will oversee a grantmaking program that supports collaborative activities with leading civil society organizations and campaigns, helping

to advance a series of specific policy objectives from international institutions and national governments. Grantmaking priorities will include activities to:

- Strengthen and support ocean and climate campaigns with unbranded communications, grassroots capacity, and high-level political consultants;
- Support specific policy outcomes on shipping, offshore renewable energy, biodiversity conservation, seabed mining, and offshore oil and gas development;
- Influence the outcomes of key international institutions and events; and,
- Strengthen equitable implementation of the new Global Biodiversity Framework, with a focus on finance and durability.

The Diplomacy Director will interact regularly with a global team of program managers with geographic responsibilities for Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America, North America, the Caribbean, the Pacific Islands, and the high seas and manage a number of high-level consultants. The global team also includes staff responsible for the [Bloomberg Ocean Fund](#) and the Bloomberg-Arcadia funding initiative. Collectively, the team implements a global strategy that is rooted firmly in local knowledge and respect.

The Ocean and Climate Diplomacy Director is a full-time position that will also assist in preparing proposals, writing progress reports, and helping with other organizational priorities. The position reports to the Oceans 5 Executive Director and is based out of this person's home office. Salary is commensurate with experience.

Deliverables, Responsibilities:

- Develop and execute a global grantmaking strategy to advance a series of ocean and climate policy outcomes to mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change.
- Manage a new dedicated fund, coordinating strategy and investments with the other funds managed in Oceans 5.
- Identify ocean and climate grantmaking opportunities, in collaboration with prospective grantees, donors, government officials, and other stakeholders.
- Build and maintain professional and collegial relationships with senior government officials, civil society organizations, academic institutions, and other stakeholders.
- Conduct oversight and monitoring of current and future grants.
- Assist grantees in meeting their goals and objectives.
- Develop a portfolio of unbranded communications including traditional, digital and other media initiatives targeting policy outcomes.
- Develop reports and presentations for Board meetings and donors to Oceans 5.
- Support other donors as necessary, including accompanying them on site visits.
- Develop and maintain broad knowledge, as well as subject matter expertise, of the science, policies, and politics of marine conservation and climate issues globally.
- Understand and support Oceans 5 policies and approaches, including assistance with media outreach, confidentiality, conflict of interests, security, ethics, and maintaining organizational health.

Requirements:

- Bachelor's degree required. Graduate degree in law, public affairs, public policy, or environmental science preferred.
- A minimum of ten years of directly related professional experience in the environment, conservation, natural resource, or public policy arena. Experience with ocean conservation and climate issues, campaign development and coordination, and professional advocacy preferred.
- Proven project-management skills, including ability to handle several projects at different stages simultaneously and a strong capacity to set priorities and identify resources.
- Strong writing, editing and proofreading skills with an ability to write clearly and cogently for internal audiences, policy makers, the media, and the public.
- Proficiency in English. Proficiency in at least one other position-related language preferred.
- Strong interpersonal skills, ability to develop and manage productive relationships with colleagues, consultants, and coalition partners. Excellent listening skills.
- Exhibit strong skills of diplomacy with seasoned and sound judgment. Ability to work productively with a wide array of different people, including senior level officials, and institutions that frequently disagree with or are in competition with one another.
- Knowledge and demonstrated proficiency in use of software (Windows, Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and Outlook) and ability to learn or use technology for reports, meetings, and grants management (Google Suite, Zoom, Fluxx, Monday.com, Slack, etc.).
- International and domestic travel will be expected.

Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors (RPA): Oceans 5 is a sponsored project of RPA, an equal opportunities employer that values diversity at the organization. RPA does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, age, marital status, veteran status, or disability status. Compensation will be commensurate with experience and accomplishment. For prospective candidates from the United States, the salary range will be \$190,000 to \$240,000, plus a competitive compensation and benefits package including health coverage, retirement benefits, paid sick leave, vacation and holidays. For candidates from outside the United States, comparable local market factors will be considered. RPA often uses employers of records for foreign hires that provide comparable benefits.

How to Apply: To be considered, please submit a cover letter, resume and writing sample to info@oceans5.org. Oceans 5 will accept applications via email until the position is filled.