

TERMS OF REFERENCE

**SENIOR LAND USE AND FORESTS OFFICER,
STANDARDS DEVELOPMENT**

Date 22 April 2021

Position Title Senior LUF Officer, Standards Development
(reports to the Senior Manager, Land Use)

Position Location Remote working Europe or Americas based

General Terms of Reference

Gold Standard is a standards body and thought leader that promotes the best that can be achieved in climate and development projects. It was established in 2003 by [WWF](#) and other international NGOs as a best practice standard to ensure projects that reduced carbon emissions under the UN's Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) also delivered sustainable development benefits. Gold Standard now has a broad NGO Supporter Network and 1400+ projects in over 80 countries, creating billions of dollars of shared value from climate and development action worldwide.

The Gold Standard Foundation seeks a highly motivated individual to join our technical team, reporting to the Senior Manager, Land Use. This is a full-time position responsible for working on regular standard updates to align with Gold Standard's strategy and policy, new market developments, review of new carbon accounting methodologies and managing the VVB approval process.

Primary Responsibilities – Development

1. Review new methodologies submitted for Gold Standard approval and prepare draft findings, including inputs from expert reviewers and SustainCERT as required
2. Draft the rule updates and clarifications to be submitted for Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) review
3. Draft TAC agendas and minutes with inputs from the Manager
4. Review the new Validation and Verification Body (VVB) applications, re-approval of VVB applications, prepare findings, liaison with relevant teams to process the application and keep the approved VVB list updated on website
5. Participate in review (QA/QC) of projects submitted for Gold Standard certification on sample basis
6. Support SustainCERT and Gold Standard Registry in assessing and quantifying performance shortfalls and required actions as per Performance Shortfall Guidelines and Issuance Control Tool
7. Liaison with different stakeholders during investigation of a grievance
8. Process deviation requests submitted by Project Developers
9. Conduct research and make recommendations into key topics affecting standards development as from time to time required by Manager

10. Represent Gold Standard at key external events, including conferences and workshops from time to time as required

Required Skills and Experience

- Master's or higher degree in Agricultural Sciences, Environmental Economics, or a related field with experience in climate change and agricultural systems.
- 5-7 years of experience in climate smart technologies and practices in research and implementation, with carbon markets experience including a close understanding of carbon standards. Candidates with experience as a carbon project developer and/or auditor is an advantage.
- Deep understanding of climate smart technologies and practices (e.g. cover cropping, reduced/zero-till, crop rotation) and land-use, forestry afforestation/reforestation (A/R), improved forest management (IFM) **is required**
- Proficiency on Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and remote sensing and expertise in statistics and model-based quantification approaches is desirable
- Wide knowledge of climate change, environmental markets and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- Good organisational and time management skills, with an eye for detail
- Languages: the working language of the Foundation is English; fluency required. Working knowledge of Spanish and French desired.
- Ability to work under pressure and juggle multiple tasks and projects
- A good team player with a positive outlook on work and a desire to make a difference in the world
- Good collaboration and communication skills with the ability to work with a range of staff based all around the world
- The ability to work legally in region stated
- Competence in MS office tools

Salary Range

The salary for this role will be commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Closing Date

Applications for this role will **close on Saturday 22 May 2021**. We regret that we cannot confirm receipt of your application by email. Successful candidates will be contacted for an interview.

Applications

Please submit a 1-page cover letter explaining why you want to work for the Gold Standard and a CV to recruitment@goldstandard.org. (Ref: Sr. LUF Officer, Standards Development)