



Senior Stakeholder Engagement Officer

Job grade	International	Reports to	Priceless Project Manager
Directorate	Conservation and Policy	Function	
Contract	Fixed term contract	Location	Ortigas, Philippines

Responsibility for resources

Direct line reports	NA	Responsibility for other resources	NA
Financial resources	PRICELESS		

Our vision and mission

The Zoological Society of London (ZSL) is an international conservation charity, driven by science, working to restore wildlife in the UK and around the world. Our vision is a world where wildlife thrives and every role, every person in every corner of ZSL has one thing in common – we are all conservationists, and passionate about restoring wildlife.

Established in 2010, ZSL Philippines has advanced evidence-based conservation across the country's marine, coastal and freshwater ecosystems, integrating rigorous science with community engagement to deliver lasting impact. Its flagship programs include mangrove and beach forest restoration, marine protected area management, seahorse conservation, and freshwater ecosystem protection. ZSL Philippines operates across multiple sites nationwide, with staff based in Iloilo, Tuguegarao, and Cebu. It has approximately 40 staff and is supported by robust operational systems that enable effective and collaborative conservation action across priority landscapes and seascapes.

Project Description

The GEF PRICELESS Project seeks to increase legal protection for the Philippines Rise Marine Resource Reserve (PRMRR), formally listing this marine protected area under the Expanded National Integrated Protected Area System (ENIPAS). The PRMRR will be overseen by a permanent Protected Area Management Board (PAMB), which will be in a position to harmonize conflicting mandates and agendas between the various institutions currently tasked with governance. The GEF PRICELESS project will also address key data and information gaps to enable appropriate management, including gaps relating to key biodiversity, fisheries/resource uses, and associated threats. This will enable the PAMB to execute the necessary protected area enforcement and awareness-raising efforts and thus foster enhanced appreciation for the value of PRMRR biodiversity and marine resources and compliance with laws and regulations. Management grounded in robust data and information will also facilitate fishing communities' access to benefits from sustainable fishing and alternative livelihoods. Finally, the GEF PRICELESS project will provide a model for the Philippines and elsewhere for achieving offshore marine resource and ecosystem protection targets, including those related to biodiversity within the CBD, and add a large, highly biodiverse and unique ecosystem to the world's Key Biodiversity Area (KBA) and Ecologically or Biologically Significant Area (EBSA) systems.

Purpose of the Role

The Senior Stakeholder Engagement Officer will provide high-level technical and strategic support to strengthen multi-stakeholder engagement, coordination, and ownership for the implementation of the GEF PRICELESS Project. The successful candidate will support inclusive, gender-responsive, and effective engagement of key national and local stakeholders to facilitate policy support, institutional coordination, and sustained compliance related to the protection and management of the Philippine Rise Marine Resource Reserve.

Key responsibilities

1. Stakeholder Mapping and Engagement Strategy for Awareness Campaigns
 - Lead the development and periodic updating of stakeholder mapping and engagement analysis to inform project strategy, policy dialogue, awareness campaigns, and institutional coordination.
 - Assess and analyse stakeholder interests, influence, relationships, risks, communication reach, and gender dynamics to inform targeted engagement approaches.
2. Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practices (KAP) Assessment to Inform Campaign Design
 - Provide technical support in the design, analysis, and interpretation of KAP assessments to inform awareness and behavior-change strategies.
 - Identify priority knowledge gaps, attitudes, behavioral drivers, and barriers, with findings disaggregated by gender and stakeholder group where feasible.
3. Gender Analysis and Gender-Responsive Engagement
 - Integrate gender analysis into stakeholder engagement and awareness initiatives, including consideration of roles, decision-making power, access to information, and compliance motivations.
 - Ensure campaigns and outreach approaches apply gender-responsive messaging and engagement methods.
4. High-Level Stakeholder Engagement, Policy Dialogue, and Institutional Coordination
 - Provide strategic advice on engaging government officials and key institutions as champions for awareness and behavior-change efforts.
 - Facilitate high-level stakeholder meetings, consultations, and fora to strengthen shared messaging, institutional alignment, and ownership of PRMRR protection and management priorities.
5. Stakeholder Ownership, Risk Management, and Adaptive Engagement
 - Identify stakeholder-related risks and propose practical mitigation and adaptive engagement measures.
 - Advise on approaches to strengthen stakeholder ownership of awareness and behavior-change initiatives.
6. Documentation, Reporting, and Knowledge Support
 - Document stakeholder engagement processes, KAP and gender assessment findings, key agreements, and lessons learned that contribute to awareness and compliance outcomes.
 - Provide inputs to awareness-related sections of project progress and donor reports.

- Develop briefing notes, key insights, and recommendations for project leadership to strengthen alignment between stakeholder engagement, assessment findings, and campaign implementation.

Person Specification

Experience	
Essential	• Advanced university degree in a relevant field (e.g. social sciences, environmental policy, natural resource management, communications, or gender studies). • At least 8 years of experience in stakeholder engagement, policy dialogue, governance support, or strategic communications within environment or development programmes. • Proven experience working with national and local government agencies and multi-stakeholder platforms. • Practical experience using KAP studies or similar social research to inform awareness, outreach, or policy engagement. • Demonstrated experience leading or supporting awareness-raising, behavior-change, or compliance-focused initiatives. • Strong understanding of gender mainstreaming and application of gender analysis in stakeholder engagement and communications. • Strong analytical, facilitation, and advisory skills, with the ability to communicate effectively with senior decision-makers. • Experience facilitating complex consultations, negotiations, or consensus-building processes involving government, communities, civil society, and technical partners. • Excellent writing skills, including preparation of briefing notes, strategies, and donor-focused reports.
Desirable	Experience in donor-funded projects (e.g., GEF, UNDP, bilateral or multilateral donors); Familiarity with sustainable fisheries, marine conservation, or protected area management; Experience facilitating or supporting training and community outreach activities.
Knowledge and skills	
Essential	• Excellent written and spoken English and Tagalog. Ability to speak and understand at least one or two local dialects in the Visayas (e.g., Cebuano, Hiligaynon, etc.) is an advantage; • Proven ability to work effectively with teams and senior managers; • Highly computer literate particularly in MS Office packages (e.g., Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and MS Teams).

Desirable	• Able to demonstrate high accuracy and attention to detail with reference to written communications, whether in the form of documentation or call logging.
Additional requirements	
Essential	• This post will require frequent travels to field sites and partner locations; • This post is a blended role for office and field work; • Strong commitment to creating a culture that lives ZSL values and commitment to safeguarding, equality and diversity (collaborative, inspiring, inclusive, innovative, impactful and ethical); • Comply with and promote Health and Safety policies and procedures.

Acknowledgement

I have read and understood the Job Description, and I hereby acknowledge the conditions and responsibilities for the job as stipulated in this Job Description.

Job Holder's Signature over Printed Name

Date signed

Kindly affix your signature and date signed on each page of the Job Description.