



## Senior Stakeholder Engagement Officer

<b>Job grade</b>		<b>Reports to</b>	<b>Project Manager</b>
<b>Directorate</b>	<b>Conservation &amp; Policy</b>	<b>Function</b>	<b>Technical (Community Engagement)</b>
<b>Contract</b>	<b>Fixed term contract</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Aurora, Philippines (1, Location TBC) Isabela, Philippines (1, same) Quezon, Philippines (1, same)</b>

### Responsibility for resources

<b>Direct line reports</b>	<b>N/a</b>	<b>Responsibility for other resources</b>	<b>Field office management and associated assets</b>
<b>Financial resources</b>	<b>N/a</b>		

### 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.

In 2010, the ZSL Philippines Country Office was established as a duly accredited non-government organization (NGO) registered under the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) as a local branch of ZSL and holds its primary office in Iloilo City with field offices in Cebu, Puerto Princesa, and Tuguegarao. Over nearly 15 years ZSL Philippines has developed its conservation programme portfolio to include rehabilitation and conservation of mangroves, beach forests and seagrasses; establishment of community-based marine protected areas (MPAs) alongside seahorse conservation; riparian rehabilitation and freshwater conservation to protect the endangered Philippine eels from overexploitation; and conservation of Palawan pangolins and curbing its illegal wildlife trade. Establishment of large-scale offshore MPA and conservation of the endangered Mindoro tamaraw add to its programme portfolio in 2023-24. These programmes are well supported with robust financial, human resources, and health and safety management structures and systems.

### Project Description

The Philippine Rise Ocean Conservation Area (PROCA) project presents an opportunity for ZSL-Philippines to partner with the Department of Agriculture-Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (DA-BFAR), Fishery Management Area 1 Management Board (FMA1 MB) and Blue Nature Alliance (BNA) to catalyse the creation of approximately 150,000 km<sup>2</sup> of new large

scale MPA and measurably improve management of approximately 10,000 km<sup>2</sup> of existing coastal MPAs by June 2027, through the following key interventions:

1. **EBSA to MPA Transition:** Upgrade the Philippine Rise Ecologically and Biologically Significant Area (EBSA) to a LSMPA through a structured stakeholder engagement process, zoning, management planning, and legal designation by June 2027.
2. **MPA Governance:** Stand up an FMA1 Management Office by June 2027 and develop institutional and technical capacity in governing FMA1, including management of the existing coastal MPAs and the proposed LSMPA.
3. **Monitoring and Surveillance:** Develop monitoring, control, and surveillance capabilities for the FMA1 Management that will benefit existing coastal MPAs and new offshore LSMPA.
4. **Sustainable Financing:** Assess sustainable finance options for the long-term management of the offshore LSMPA by June 2025. A potential Phase 2 engagement will be developed upon legal designation of the Philippine Rise LSMPA focusing on advancing the implementation of the selected sustainable finance model.

## Purpose of the role

The successful applicants will be based in ZSL Philippines Extension Offices (TBC) in Aurora, Isabela, and Quezon provinces, with corresponding fieldwork in respective provincial project sites and travel to Metro Manila, Iloilo Country office and/or Tuguegarao Field Office. S/He will work directly with ZSL Philippines PROCA Project Manager and indirectly with ZSL UK Scientific and Technical experts, who will provide guidance and overall direction relative to project planning, implementation, monitoring, evaluation and learning. In coordination with the DA-BFAR, FMA 1 MB, and ZSL Philippines/UK PROCA Project Team and reporting to the Project Manager, the post holder will deliver the responsibilities and implement activities based on agreed upon strategies and approaches, following the approved workplan and budgets to ensure accomplishment of project goals, and objectives. His/her key responsibilities will focus mainly on stakeholder mapping, analysis and engagement relative to large-scale offshore MPA (LSMPA) establishment, declaration, zoning, and management planning, and associated behaviour change and capacity building of stakeholders in support of the LSMPA establishment and management.

## Key responsibilities

Following ZSL Philippines' Project Scope of Work (SOW) and approved workplan and budget, the successful candidate will undertake the following responsibilities in their assigned project area:

### Stakeholder Relationships

#### General

1. Engagement, mobilization, and coordination with the following organizations: national (BFAR and DENR) and local (municipal and barangay) government agencies/units, commercial and municipal fishers, indigenous people, other businesses, civil society (academe, NGOs), and community groups in the establishment, declaration and

management of the Philippine Rise LSMPA and development of working relationships and collaboration across different sectors.

2. Organize, support and co-facilitate the conduct of iterative meaningful consultations with various community, sectoral and government stakeholders on the social acceptability relative to the establishment and declaration of the LSMPA.

### **Specific**

3. Organize, and lead the conduct of stakeholder mapping and analysis at the municipal level in his/her assigned province.
4. Support work leads, partners and sub-grantees in primary and secondary data collection relative to legal framework review; biological/biophysical, fisheries, and socio-economic assessments; and MPA database updating.
5. Organize and support work leads, partners and sub-grantees in education sessions to stakeholders to feedback results of legal review, and biological and social assessments, and other studies to rationalize and support the establishment and declaration of the LSMPA.
6. Organize, support and co-facilitate the conduct of LSMPA zoning and management planning with identified community, sectoral and government stakeholders and related consultations at the local level to hear out sentiments, generate inputs, and recommendations from different stakeholders.

### **Development and Implementation of Environmental and Social Management System (ESMS)**

7. Support the ESMS team in the development and establishment of the ESMS framework including, but not limited to, socio-ecological research, focus group discussions, meetings and workshops with community stakeholders, and other data gathering activities, and actual installation and roll-out of ESMS mechanisms and procedures at the community level.
8. Support the ESMS team in monitoring and evaluation activities of the ESMS process/methodology to generate learning- feeding into improvement in design and processes.

### **Behaviour Change Communication**

9. Co-organize and support the Social Marketing Specialist in the development, roll-out, monitoring and evaluation of social marketing campaigns for positive behaviour change to target audience at the municipal and/or barangay levels to support the establishment and management of LSMPA.
10. Conduct information and education sessions to communities and local government stakeholders to develop positive behaviours supporting the establishment and management of LSMPA.
11. Support the development of behaviour change communication channels, platform and materials.

### **Training and Capacity building**

12. Support in the delivery and implementation of training and capacity building program of BFAR, FMA 1 Management Board, and LGU staff; community MPA managers; academics;

or researchers following the results of training needs assessment undertaken by the FMA 1 secretariat or as identified in the process of project implementation.

13. Where applicable, lead in the establishment or strengthening of community-based organizations, or community-managed savings and loan associations (CoMSCAs) and promote collaboration among various project stakeholders.

**Project Management**

14. Input to monthly, quarterly and annual progress reports and key performance indicators (KPIs), and technical reports in co-ordination with the Project Manager, for review by the Country Director and other ZSL Scientific and Technical Experts Head based in UK.
15. In collaboration with the Project Manager, support the development of new aspects of the project in line with ZSL’s strategic plan.

*The duties and responsibilities described are not a comprehensive list and additional tasks may be assigned from time to time that are in line with the level of the role.*

**Person Specification**

Experience	
Essential	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• University degree holder in social work or community development, social science, environmental science/management, fisheries or related subject area, or demonstrates a level of equivalent qualification and experience through relevant practical work experience</li> <li>• Experienced in community organizing and strengthening, multi-sectoral stakeholder engagement, social mobilization, and participatory approaches and methodologies in conservation or development work settings</li> <li>• Experienced in facilitating stakeholders’ meetings, training, management planning workshops, and community-based activities</li> <li>• Proven ability to work effectively with teams and senior managers, and independently and can manage different priorities with remote and less supervision</li> </ul>
Desirable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preferably, but not necessary, with experience and general knowledge on MPA establishment and management, fisheries management, fisheries laws, and behaviour change communication, among others.</li> <li>• Experience on multi-stakeholder collaboration in marine conservation and fisheries management settings is desirable</li> <li>• Experience in projects funded by bilateral or multilateral donor organizations (e.g., USAID, EU, etc.) an advantage</li> <li>• Work experience in NGO setting an advantage.</li> </ul>

Knowledge and skills	
Essential	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Good working knowledge and skills in MS Office packages, i.e., Word, Excel and PowerPoint, MS Teams, and emailing.</li> <li>• Good in written and spoken English and Tagalog.</li> <li>• Strong organizational, interpersonal, communication and presentation skills.</li> <li>• Good understanding of community-based conservation initiatives</li> <li>• Demonstrated capacity in report-writing (training, activity, meeting, field documentation, news articles, etc.) and creating equivalent presentations.</li> </ul>
Desirable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Able to demonstrate high accuracy and attention to detail with reference to written communications, whether in the form of documentation or call logging.</li> <li>• Organization and facilitation of logistical arrangements for in-country, provincial or municipal meetings and workshops and preparation of relevant materials and reports.</li> <li>• Ability to speak and understand at least one local languages of Northern Luzon (Ilocano) is an advantage.</li> </ul>
Additional requirements	
Essential	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• While stationed in extension offices in target provinces, the post will require extensive field work in community settings, with considerable travel, and direct exposure to the weather; immersion/integration to communities and sectors will be required.</li> <li>• This post may require frequent work during evenings and/or weekends</li> <li>• Strong commitment to creating a culture that lives ZSL values and commitment to safeguarding, equality and diversity (collaborative, inspiring, inclusive, innovative, impactful and ethical)</li> <li>• Comply with and promote Health and Safety policies and procedures</li> </ul>

---

*This job description is designed to outline a range of main duties that may be encountered. It is not designed to be an exhaustive list of tasks and can be varied in consultation with the post holder to reflect changes in the job or the Society.*

---

## 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.*