



Job vacancy

Head of Philanthropy (0,8–1,0 fte)

About Rewilding Europe

Rewilding Europe, established in 2011, is a leading rewilding organisation in Europe with the main aim to demonstrate and scale up rewilding as a new and innovative approach to large-scale nature recovery on the continent.

With dedicated local partner organisations, Rewilding Europe now supports 11 large landscape rewilding initiatives, totalling 5 million hectares of land and water in 14 different countries. The central team's home office - called Wild Quarters and located in Heilig Landstichting (near Nijmegen), the Netherlands - from where over 35 people are employed. Rewilding Europe has experienced strong growth over the past several years, with rewilding becoming a burgeoning movement all across Europe. Currently, over 220 people are working in the central and landscape teams, with an annual budget of around 20 million euros in total. This budget is expected to grow as we are committed to working in 15 landscapes by 2030.

Funding comes primarily from private and corporate foundations, major private donors (high-net-worth individuals), institutional donors, as well as conservation organisations, corporates and lotteries. The organisation maintains strong relationships with its key donors. Many of them are long-term supporters of Rewilding Europe. Wild Quarters is the hub for the fundraising team, while we are planning to establish charity registrations in the UK and possibly other countries in the future.

Role

The Head of Philanthropy is responsible for the oversight, planning and implementation of a comprehensive fundraising approach that secures significant financial resources from individuals, grants, and corporations. The role reports directly to and works in close collaboration with the Executive Director. The ideal candidate is comfortable in connecting with different types of funding segments, has an outstanding set of social skills and knows how to close and maintain these kinds of donor agreements. A keen understanding of the donor landscape in Europe, a relevant network, proficiency in donor strategy development and an overall comprehension of donor pipeline expansion are essential.

With excellent communication skills (both verbally and in writing, preferably in several languages) and a pleasant and forthcoming personality, the ideal candidate can rapidly build and manage a close funding network across Europe. As all fundraisers are the ambassadors of Rewilding Europe, passion for - and knowledge of the rewilding work on the ground is thorough. This role also ensures compliance with all gift-related policies and procedures and ensures ethical compliance.

Main responsibilities

Strategy Development:

- Design, update and implement strategy and an operational fundraising plan for Rewilding Europe, in close collaboration with the Executive Director, Board members and internal & external stakeholders to align fundraising initiatives with organisational objectives.
- Strengthen and facilitate fundraising capacity and activities within the Rewilding Europe organisation.
- Analyse market trends and donor landscapes to identify potential opportunities.

Donor Cultivation and Stewardship:

- Build and manage a sustainable and effective funding pipeline, engaging with leads and prospects from different funding segments (Ultra High Net Worth Individuals (UHNWI), foundations, lotteries and corporates), to grow the total Rewilding Europe grant income.
- Create tailored engagement plans for donors, ensuring personalised stewardship and ongoing relationships.
- Conceptualise, plan, and execute fundraising events and trips tailored for UHNWI (prospective) donors.
- Convene programme management meetings with staff and appropriate partners to oversee programme implementation.
- Increase visibility of Rewilding Europe, in particular in focal countries and represent Rewilding Europe as a passionate and articulate spokesperson.

Data, Compliance and Reporting:

- Ensure compliance with fundraising regulations, ethical standards, and best practices in philanthropy.
- Oversee the content and quality of detailed impact reports and analysis for donors and other stakeholders.

Qualifications

- You are an entrepreneurial and experienced (10+ years) fundraiser with a track record of securing large new commitments.
- You have proven success and examples of working with UHNWIs in a fundraising and giving setting, building effective long-term relationships and demonstrating a deep understanding of philanthropic motivations and behaviours.
- You can translate the Rewilding Europe fundraising strategy into strategic workplans, and you can oversee the content and quality of grant proposals.
- You have experience in planning and delivering creative and high-prestige fundraising events both for income generation and cultivation and stewardship.
- You have affinity with- and passion for rewilding, wildlife, climate and/or Europe; as an ambassador of Rewilding Europe you have (or are able to acquire) European wildlife and rewilding/conservation knowledge to engage and inspire (prospective) donors.
- You are willing to work travel regularly to different European countries and be present in Wild Quarters on a regular basis.

Application

We are working with PLUS ONE Executive Search to find the ideal candidate for this position. If you believe you meet the attributes and skills above, you can reach out to Esther Driessen, email info@plusone-executivesearch.nl. Applications will be considered on a rolling basis until the position is closed, though early applications are strongly encouraged. Strong preference will be given to candidates who are based in the Netherlands – or willing to relocate – and who have permission to work in the country.