



foundation RURAL ENERGY SERVICES

FRES is recruiting a:

Communications Manager / Fundraising Support Officer

Full -time

Job description

About FRES

With its 20-year track record, the Foundation Rural Energy Services (FRES) is a pioneer in bringing off-grid solar energy to rural Africa. Even in the most challenging and hard to reach areas, avoided by competitors, FRES has become a trusted supplier of solar energy to businesses, communities and households. With our work in rural Africa we contribute directly to the core pledge of the SDG's: to leave no one behind.

Central to our success is our belief in local entrepreneurship. FRES establishes commercial utilities under local management that gradually extend their reach from village- to-village and district- to-district. Currently FRES has operations in Mali, Burkina Faso, Guinea-Bissau and Uganda and aims to add more countries to our network over the next few years.

FRES' small head office in Amsterdam, The Netherlands, oversees and supports the activities of local companies in Africa. By providing strategic and operational support, it guides the companies on a roadmap to self-reliance. The head office is also responsible for fundraising, procurement, developing partnerships and the expansion into new countries.

Current estimates indicate that by 2030 , half a billion people will still remain without access to energy, predominantly living in rural Africa. This makes our experience and work even more relevant and urgent! By supporting the growth of our current companies and adding new countries to our network, we aim to grow our coverage tenfold by 2030.

FRES Netherlands is currently looking to fill the position of Communications Manager / Fundraising Support Officer.

Position and role

The Communication Manager / Fundraising Support Officer holds a key position within FRES. Communication activities of FRES will focus on: (1) supporting our fundraising; (2) reporting on our results and impact; (3) managing our brand and brand promise and (4) claiming and maintaining our leadership position in the sector. The Communication Manager will report directly to the Managing Director.

To support our growth strategy the current website will need to be fully revised and transformed into a website where FRES reports on the impact of its existing investments and presents new investments. The website will also include local outlets for the FREScos. As such, the website will become a key instrument in aligning communication and messaging across our companies. It will act as a dashboard for funders, partners and other stakeholders to access and to track the impact of individual investments, follow progress on our growth ambitions, and will also be a platform to share lessons learned to inspire others to follow our example.

To track our impact, FRES uses a framework for measurement, evaluation and learning (MEL) and the Communication Manager will play a key role in ensuring that MEL-results can be shared in a meaningful manner. As such you, will become an expert in solar energy investments and able to tell



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the story of FRES and thereby, contribute to writing articles and fundraising proposals. Excellent writing skills are therefore a prerequisite. .

As the FRES-brand guides not only our communication but also our services, monitoring the delivery on our promise by our companies will be an integral part of this role. As such you will play an advisory role to your colleagues, working on improving the operations of the companies. Full working proficiency and competency in English, both written and spoken is essential. French will be considered a distinctive advantage. .

The fundraising support activities will include maintaining the fundraising pipeline, managing processes to develop fundraising proposals, contributing to the writing of proposals and managing relationships with current and potential funders.

Activities

- Develop and maintain the websites of FRES Netherlands and local companies
- Developing the MEL framework and monitoring and reporting on the impacts and results
- Act as an External representative and spokesperson on behalf of FRES
- Managing the FRES brand and providing internal support to colleagues
- Writing articles on FRES activities and contributions to fundraising proposals
- Managing the fundraising pipeline and funding proposal development

Skills and experience

- Fluent English (verbal and written), French advantageous
- Work experience with organizations in African countries
- Relevant communication management experience in business or within an NGO context
- Experience with fundraising
- Experience in business environment, ideally in the field of solar energy
- Strong analytical and presentation skills
- Strong skills and experience in report writing
- Good interpersonal and intercultural skills
- University degree or equivalent work experience

Conditions

The position is in principle full- time, a four-day work week can be discussed. Working at the headquarters in Amsterdam is preferred. Working at distance, with regular visits to the head office can be discussed. FRES offers a competitive salary, in accordance with the standards of the Dutch NGO sector.

Contact

For further information about FRES, our work and the position, please check our website www.fres.nl or send an email to ido.verhagen@fres.nl. Are you interested? Send your motivation and resume to ido.verhagen@fres.nl. Do so before 31 October but do not wait longer than necessary: applications will be processed on a first come, first served basis.