



OPEN VACANCY

Job Title:	Programme Officer
Ref:	PO1
Reporting to:	Director General
Location:	Ankara
Expected start date:	15.01.2022
Period of contract:	12 Months with a probationary period of 2 months. Contract may be renewed after this period
Salary:	11700 TL (net salary)

Attention! Meeting the 'Requirements & Qualifications' is a must. Please do not apply if you don't meet the 'Requirements & Qualifications' stated below

! Please send your curriculum vitae with a **cover letter** to info@yolda.org.tr quoting '**Ref: PO1**' by **2nd January 2022**.

Organisation: Yolda Initiative is a nature conservation organisation working at international level for conserving **biodiversity** through research, advocacy, communication and by working in partnerships. Recognizing that humans, with their cultural diversity, are an integral component of ecosystems, Yolda focuses on the value of the traditional cultural practices that benefit biodiversity and contribute to efforts to tackle climate crises.

Background: Cultural landscapes, which is a key concept for Yolda's approach, embrace the diversity of the interaction between humankind and its nature. Local communities all over the world still engage in many traditional cultural practices, which together with mobile pastoralism, contribute to the ecological integrity and diversity of landscapes. However, the threats of modern era that these communities are facing today challenge their capability to maintain their traditional lifestyles. This calls for urgent action. In order to conserve these traditional cultural practices which enable the maintenance and management of landscape diversity and halt biodiversity loss, Yolda in collaboration with its partners applies multiple strategies at national, regional and international levels. Yolda coordinates and co-chairs different networks such as the [Alliance for Mediterranean Nature and Culture](#) with multiple project sites in the Mediterranean region and the regional support group in Europe for [International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists](#). The above-mentioned strategies of Yolda include but not limited to are:

- Building effective and durable regional partnerships

- Enhancing knowledge
- Communicating and promoting the landscapes and cultural practices approach
- Ensuring economic and financial sustainability of the local communities
- Advocating policies
- Strengthening local capacities

Job Description:

The overall objective of this Programme Officer position will be to contribute to the effective implementation of Yolda's Nature & Culture Programme

Specific duties:

- Assisting coordination and implementation of the national and international level above-mentioned strategies and work packages of Yolda regarding traditional production systems that benefits biodiversity and climate actions; specifically in regard to ensuring **economic and financial sustainability** of cultural practices-based economies and strengthening **local capacities** for improved and sustainable management
- Assisting development of a common approach (including but not limited to a framework to standards, certification and labeling across different sites, exchanges, etc.) and required mechanisms and tools with our partners to fair and sustainable food systems in support of cultural landscapes at regional and international levels
- Adapting and applying the common approach and tools towards developing economic solutions for sustainable food production/consumption in Turkey, including but not limited to development of standards (with accompanying biodiversity and climate monitoring schemes), certification and labeling of key products.
- Assisting in enhancing knowledge with scientific studies (desktop & field research) both in Turkey and abroad on the links between cultural practices-based economies and biodiversity and climate; and how these links support human wellbeing
- Assisting in communicating and promoting Yolda's approach and messages specifically in regard to cultural practices-based economies at national, regional and international levels
- Advocating policies that support cultural practices-based economies at national, regional and international levels
- Strengthening local capacities for improved knowledge, capacity and resources within the framework of the above-mentioned approaches, strategies and tools
- Assisting development of organizational & strategic frameworks including for and within our international partnerships
- Assisting coordination and governance mechanisms of our partnerships
- Assisting in capitalisation of learnings and advocacy at regional level within the framework of our partnerships

General duties:

- Developing and/or supporting development of project proposals, budgets, reports
- Assisting fundraising activities of Yolda
- Assisting financial and administrative work of Yolda
- Scheduling meetings, writing minutes and agendas and developing & circulating reference materials for preparation of meetings,
- Assisting recruitment and coordination of consultants

- Assisting with other support duties such as logistics, organizing events, (including conferences) and travels.
- Assisting communication activities of Yolda including but not limited to content development and management of online communication platforms of Yolda
- Carrying out other relevant tasks at the request of and in agreement with the line manager
- Performing other duties as may be assigned from time to time.

Requirements & Qualifications:

- Must be eligible to live and work in Turkey
- A university degree from a **relevant** field of expertise (Advanced university degree is preferred)
- **Demonstrated professional experience** regarding above-mentioned duties with strong networking & management skills at multiple levels including planning, implementation, reporting, and monitoring
- Excellent written and oral communication skills
- Excellent fluency in spoken and written Turkish and English
- Minimum of **7 years** of demonstrated professional work experience in **relevant areas**
- Willingness and availability to frequent travel nationwide and internationally, sometimes at short notice
- **Driving license**
- A **commitment to nature conservation**; an interest in adapting to varied physical and professional environments; and a desire to work with people with different cultural backgrounds.
- **Good research and problem-solving skills** and ability to respond to shifting needs with flexibility while maintaining a positive approach
- Works collaboratively with colleagues to achieve organizational goals
- Ready to cope with busy work schedules and flexible working hours,
- Competency with Microsoft Office programs and online communication – management software

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