

Technical Committee Chair Global Water Partnership

The Global Water Partnership's mission is to support the sustainable development and management of water resources at all levels. In implementing our 2009-2013 Strategy, our support will focus on four key goals: promoting water as a key part of sustainable national development; addressing critical development challenges (such as climate change, food security, energy security and urbanization); reinforcing knowledge sharing and communications and; building a more effective network.

Our Technical Committee is an integral and key part of achieving these four goals, through knowledge generation and sharing within and outside the Partnership. The Technical Committee comprises specialists with a wide range of expertise in the water-related subjects of interest to the Partnership. They work together to produce our technical publications and contribute to international and regional knowledge sharing activities. The Technical Committee Chair will lead the work of this group.

We are looking for an individual with international stature, who has ties/connections to one or more leading institution(s). The position of Technical Chair is envisaged as a part time one, with up to fifty percent time commitment needed.

The Technical Committee Chair will be a member of the GWPO Management Team. The Technical Chair is selected for his/her ability to provide strong intellectual leadership to GWP's technical cutting edge analyses, knowledge generation and sharing work. The Technical Committee Chair is appointed by the Steering Committee and reports to the Executive Secretary.

Main tasks

- Provide overall vision and leadership to the Technical Committee.
- Oversee specific activities as embodied in the annual Technical Committee work program.
- Provide oversight to the work of the Technical Function -- developing, maintaining and disseminating cutting edge knowledge/information within the Partnership and externally
- Act as an advisor to the Executive Secretary (ES), the Steering Committee (SC) and the Chair of the GWP on matters relating to the substance and programmatic content of the GWP's work.
- Prepare recommendations to the Steering Committee for the appointment of Technical Committee members, taking into account several key criteria.
- Convene and preside over all Technical Committee meetings.
- Supervise the staff members and consultants who support the work of Technical Committee and/or who carry out specific activities requested by Technical Committee.
- Administer the Technical Committee budget
- Report on areas under responsibility at SC meetings.
- Uphold the intellectual independence of the Technical Committee for the contents of and judgements in their work.
- Ensure preparation and discussion of the Technical Committee work program with the ES/DES before submission to the Steering Committee.

- Establish Task Forces and sub-groups, as needed to carry out activities of special importance and to deal with specific work program outputs and tasks.
- Represent GWPO and GWP in international and donor meetings and participate in other activities as agreed with the ES.

Specific Criteria for selection

Technical Expertise and Experience:

1. International eminence (research and/or practical) in water resources management or related field;
2. Experience in working with international, regional and developing country experts;
3. Knowledge of the needs of developing and emerging economy countries;
4. Ability to work with technical experts and facilitate exchanges with non-technical people;
5. Published author in peer-reviewed journals;
6. Strong understanding of the policy dimensions of water resource management and the relationship to the poverty reduction and sustainable development agendas;
7. Commitment to the issues being tackled by GWP and across the partnership.

Leadership and Management Skills

1. Recognized leadership skills and the ability to inspire;
2. Ability to work in a multidisciplinary environment with excellent communication and people skills;
3. Capacity to think strategically, analyze complex issues and keep GWP at the cutting edge;
4. Management experience, particularly with setting priorities, financial management and directing high level teams;
5. Ability to work in English is essential and knowledge of other major languages is desirable.

GWP offers a three-year contract with the possibility of additional terms and attractive financial compensation similar to UN Senior staff scales.

Please send your expression of interest and/or nominations plus CV in English (the official working language of GWPO) to e-mail marie.gunnarsson@gwpforum.org by 25 April 2009 at the latest.

For further information and questions on the position, please contact Marie Gunnarsson, Head of HR and Administration at +46 8 522 126 43.

Please note that only short listed candidates will be contacted.

GWP is an equal opportunity employer.