Job announcement

Country Programmes Manager

Ecuador Office

Deadline for applications: 11 September 2022
Hello! We’re excited to see you found your way to this job opening. That must mean you share our ambition to ensure learners around the world enjoy their fundamental human right to quality education, without exception. We’re looking forward to hearing from you!

But first things first. Allow us to introduce ourselves, drawing on the great mystery behind our name. Since our establishment in 1982, ‘VVOB’ has evolved from a complex (Dutch) acronym to a stand-alone concept meaning education for development:

VVOB stands for ‘commitment’ – to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030.

VVOB stands for ‘integrity’ and ‘mutual respect’ – in working with our partner organisations across 10 countries / three continents.

VVOB stands for ‘quality’ and ‘innovation’ – of everything we do in our effort to improve education worldwide.

Do you still feel like you are in the right place? Great, because we are looking for a Country Programmes Manager who will operate from our office in Quito, Ecuador.

**VVOB in Ecuador**

Ecuador is a pioneer country for VVOB’s Skilling for Sustainable Futures (SF2) Flagship, a multi-country programme that offers an evidence-backed, scalable solution to prepare youth in secondary education (general secondary + secondary technical and vocational education and training) with the technical, entrepreneurial and transferable skills they need to succeed in the world of work. Together with the Ministry of Education and partner universities, VVOB is implementing ¡VAMOS! – “Vinculando el Agro-aprendizaje para un Mundo Sostenible” – a five-year (2022-2026) Belgium-funded programme that will develop, test and pilot a first model of the SF2 approach, with a specific focus on preparing youth for work in green(ing) agriculture value chains. The focus is on the continuous professional development of teachers and school leaders in five provinces (Bolívar, Esmeraldas, Los Ríos, Manabí and Pastaza).

VVOB’s ambition for the coming years is to attract funding and forge partnerships for scaling ¡VAMOS!, seek opportunities for SF2 expansion in terms of focus economic sectors and take concrete steps towards starting operations in other education sub-sectors in VVOB’s portfolio.

**Purpose of the function**

As the Country Programmes Manager you bear the final responsibility for the totality of all activities in Ecuador. You carry out the vision and mission of VVOB, you develop our business further and contribute to global business development.
What will you do?

- You hold the end responsibility of all VVOB operations within Ecuador and are accountable for key results in all areas, including programme operations, finances, human resources and internal organization;
- As a leader and role model, you develop and inspire the team in Ecuador and you offer managerial advice, guidance and support towards them in order to achieve programme results;
- You are actively involved in the further development of the business at country level, including portfolio management, highlighting of achievements, identifying the landscape of both partnerships and competition and seeking new funding opportunities;
- You are actively engaged in strategy and policy development at global organisational level and translate these global strategies and policies into relevant and scalable strategies, policies and programmes at the country level. As a leader you ensure VVOB in Ecuador lives and implements the VVOB 2030-strategy;
- You develop and maintain a network with relevant government, funding, technical and network partners and other internal and external stakeholders. Furthermore, you represent VVOB towards them.

If you’re our Country Programmes Manager, your workweek at the office will include the following highlights:

You have a meeting with your right-hand, the Operations Manager, about financial processes and the draft budget for a multimillion project we’re trying to secure;

You have a discussion with the Education Advisors in your team about the progress and next steps of the programmes. Any challenges, e.g. in the cooperation with partners, are raised here;

You give a presentation at the Ministry of Education on VVOB’s work, especially on gender-responsive education, to the country’s top officials;

Lunch! A perfect way to nurture relationships with the Country Directors of other international NGOs in the country;

You travel to another province to give opening remarks at a workshop with VVOB’s partners;

You log in to a Teams meeting to touch base with VVOB’s head office in Brussels (Belgium) on the quarterly progress of VVOB’s activities in the country. You’re well prepared on everything from finances to human resources, any upcoming VIP visits of partners to our programmes, and any other relevant subjects;

You prepare, together with your team, the upcoming team retreat, where you will work with your team on the planning of activities for the upcoming year and organize some team building workshops, such as one to clarify roles and responsibilities within the team.

Does this look like your dream job?
Then read on and check whether your profile matches the job requirements!
Who are you?

This position is only open to international candidates, which means the position is open to all candidates who are not a citizen of the country where the position is located.

Your expertise and experience

- A Master’s Degree;
- At least 2 years of international work experience, specifically in Africa, Asia and/or South America;
- Strong and proven management and leadership skills with a track record of success in building effective teams and leading and motivating a diverse group of professional staff;
- Demonstrated and successful experience in strategic networking and partnership building with a varied range of partners, including government partners, donors and investors;
- Experience in organizational development and leading an organization through change;
- At least 3 years’ work experience in managing a project portfolio with an annual budget of more than 1 million euro;
- Experience with capacity development processes and strategies, change processes and change management at institutional level;
- English proficiency: CEFR level C1;
- Spanish proficiency: CEFR level C1.

Matching competences

**VVOB core competences:**

- Cooperation
- Continuous Improvement
- Result Orientation

**Function specific competencies:**

- Strategic Networking & Partnership building
- Persuasiveness
- Giving Direction
- Vision Building
- Agility
What we’re offering:

- A full-time contract with end date 31/12/2026;
- A dynamic working environment in an international context;
- An attractive compensations & benefits package including holiday allowance and 13th month, insurances, housing allowance, school fee allowance, annual family home travel ticket and pension savings;
- An exciting job in a growing organisation with varied responsibilities and opportunities for professional development.

Join us:
As soon as possible!

Your Office:
Quito, Ecuador

What’s next?
Your motivation letter and a detailed CV are expected no later than September 11th. Please use the webform to apply for this vacancy: https://on.vvob.org/JOB_CPM_Ecuador

Shortlisted candidates will take a written test, go through an interview process and an assessment, before a final offer.

VVOB firmly believes that quality education can only be achieved if equity is ensured. Qualities of people prevail, regardless of age, gender, ethnicity or disability.

Is this not exactly the job you are looking for? Please have a look at our other vacancies at: https://www.vvob.org/en/vacancies.
Job opportunity – August 2022 – Country Programme Manager Ecuador

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