

Job Opening: Head of Regional Stewardship Hubs

The University of Bern, the Wyss Foundation (USA), and the Canton of Bern are establishing the **Wyss Academy for Nature** at the University of Bern, Switzerland. The Academy aims to research, develop, and implement concrete solutions for dealing with climate change, biodiversity loss, and land use change by combining technical, societal, economic, and political innovations at the interface of nature and people. While the headquarters of the Wyss Academy for Nature will be located in Bern, it will operate three Regional Stewardship Hubs in the global South (Latin America, East Africa, Southeast Asia). These hubs will develop, test, and apply science-based innovations for the protection and sustainable use of nature (for more information, please visit this [link](#)).

For the design, implementation, and management of our activities in the global South, we are seeking a:

Head of Regional Stewardship Hubs (100%)

Period: Starting by July 1 or earliest convenience; open-ended contract subject to continued funding

Place: Bern, Switzerland, including frequent international travel

Institution: Wyss Academy for Nature at the University of Bern; established as a foundation

Position: Member of the Executive Management

Apply no later than: 5 May 2020

We are seeking a mid-career to senior scientist or development professional who will develop, lead, and inspire activities in our three Regional Stewardship Hubs in the global South. In close collaboration with partners of the Hub offices of the Wyss Academy for Nature in these regions, he/she will be responsible for establishing and coordinating the key components of the hubs, including knowledge platforms, multi-stakeholder engagement platforms, and an incubator scheme for testing innovative pathways to sustainable development. The successful candidate will demonstrate significant experience working at the interface of science, policy, and practice in the global South; strong committed to creating concrete impacts for nature and people; and willingness to collaborate with partners and institutions reflecting different cultural and professional backgrounds.

Requirements:

- A master's degree or, ideally, PhD relevant to the relationship between nature and people;
- A proven track record of working at the interface of science, policy and practice in the global South. Prior experience working on similar schemes of knowledge co-production, real-world labs, or incubators is an asset;
- Proven, multi-year experience leading and managing collaborative initiatives between actors from different sectors (academic, public, private), including different cultural backgrounds and languages;
- A visionary, creative personality capable of building up Regional Stewardship Hubs with international visibility and concrete impacts;
- Proven management and team skills and willingness to work in an international setting requiring frequent travel;
- Excellent communication skills and fluency in English both written and oral; knowledge of Spanish and German is an asset.

We offer:

- An opportunity to be part of an initiative that develops, tests, and scales up innovative solutions to the most urgent problems of our times, exploring new modes of collaboration between science, policy, and practice;
- Membership in Executive Management team, working closely with colleagues and shaping the overall strategy of the Wyss Academy for Nature;
- Work in a stimulating intercultural, international, multidisciplinary environment;
- Employment by a foundation with remuneration schemes following the standards of the University of Bern.

For further information on the announced opening, please contact Prof. Peter Messerli (peter.messerli@cde.unibe.ch).

Please send your application to personaladministration@cde.unibe.ch. Applications must be written in English and include, in one PDF file, the following elements: Curriculum Vitae, publication list, contact details of two professional referees, and a cover letter including a personal statement about your current working priorities and your personal vision regarding the subject matter.

The Wyss Academy for Nature values diversity and is committed to equal opportunities; applications are welcome from all suitably qualified candidates who meet the stated criteria.