

VACANCY
TEAM LEADER Climate Resilient Integrated Water Management in the Zarafshan River Basin, Uzbekistan

Deadline for application: January 15, 2024

Caritas Switzerland (www.caritas.ch) is a Swiss NGO founded in 1901 with its headquarters in Lucerne, Switzerland. We have been engaged in Central Asia with a presence in Tajikistan since the end of the civil war in 1996 and have recently expanded into Uzbekistan. Our programme in Central Asia focuses on addressing contemporary issues related to climate change adaptation, water resource management, natural hazards and food and nutrition security.

In summer 2022, a consortium of Caritas Switzerland (lead) and the Central Asia Regional Environmental Center (CAREC) was awarded a 12-year mandate from the Government of Switzerland, acting through the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation and the Swiss Embassy in Tashkent. The mandate aims to address persistent challenges to sustainable and equitable management of water resources in the Zarafshan River Basin (ZRB), taking into account changing socio-economic and climate conditions. After an extended inception phase (August 2022 to May 2023), the mandate entered its first implementation phase in June 2023, which will continue until April 2027. The following second and third phases will extend into 2033, based on tangible progress and realization of desired outcomes.

Caritas Switzerland (CACH) looks for a senior candidate to take over the position of Team Leader for the remainder of the ongoing first phase until April 2027, with an option to extend the contract into subsequent phases. We offer a long-term engagement with attractive working conditions and a competitive salary to attract the best candidate.

Reporting to CACH's regional director (based in Dushanbe, Tajikistan), this position is based in Samarkand, with frequent travel to Tashkent.

Main responsibilities

1. Project lead, ensuring alignment with national priorities of planning and implementation in Samarkand, according to CACH's standards of project implementation, including financial oversight and compliance with Uzbekistan's legal requirements, as well as SDC and CACH's institutional requirements
1. Coordination with partners and stakeholders in terms of representing the project as well as effective and timely implementation
2. Monitor progress against planning and logframe; oversight on evaluation and learning
3. Coordinating with Consortium partner CAREC, and technical backstoppers as needed
4. Reporting to the donor, according to CACH's standards
5. Managing a small team of administrative and technical specialists based in Samarkand

Qualifications

- Higher education related to IWRM; MS or PhD degree related to IWRM are an asset.
- At least five years of experience in working for international organizations, including in management positions and with a thematic track record related to IWRM, water sector policy and reforms in Uzbekistan, and a corresponding knowledge of related ministries and governmental agencies in Uzbekistan

- Strong managerial skills, including result-oriented management, strategic planning, human resources management and financial management skills
- Experience in working with SDC and/or other international donors
- Established network within the Government of Uzbekistan on topics related to water, environment, climate change
- In-depth contextual understanding of relevant actors and issues within the Zarafshan River Basin
- Proficiency in written and spoken Uzbek, Russian and English

Requirements for application

Caritas Switzerland is a progressive and open-minded organization that is committed to the principles of equity, diversity, and inclusiveness. Minorities, women, and persons with disabilities are encouraged to apply. What you are capable of in terms of delivering on our mandate, while concurrently meeting your own personal development goals, matters to us. We want to hear how you feel you can grow professionally with us in improving well-being and quality of life of Caritas Switzerland's constituency.

We require the following information to be sent via email to recruitment-tj@caritas.ch with the **subject heading of the email application to state *Team Leader ZRB Uzbekistan***

1. An updated curriculum vitae
2. Cover letter detailing essential qualifications and why you feel this position is a right fit for you. If you have a specific salary requirement, please mention this within your cover letter
3. Copy of academic transcripts showing graduation date (these may be unofficial transcripts at this stage)
4. Names and contact information for 3 references that can attest to the core competencies detailed above. Please indicate if any of these references should NOT be contacted until an offer for employment is presented and accepted subject to clearance of positive reference.

We will be interviewing for this position on a rolling basis; therefore, early applications are advised.