

# Vacancy: Project manager

## About cewas Middle East

We support change-makers in the Middle East to launch their own sustainable start-up.

cewas Middle East is the regional branch of the Swiss cewas Start-Up program. We offer professional training, coaching, mentorship and consulting in business development for sustainable water, sanitation and resource management.

Our goals are to increase the role of the private sector and entrepreneurship in tackling the environmental issues of the region. Our programs focus on addressing environmental challenges in Lebanon, Palestine, Jordan and Iraq.

Our mission is to:

-  Bridge the entrepreneurship and water sectors to create more sustainable solutions in water, sanitation and resource management
-  Support humanitarian water and sanitation actors in the Middle East to improve the sustainability of their services
-  Development of innovative Resource Recovery and Reuse (RRR) projects

We are a team of practitioners dedicated to linking business practices with sustainability. We have a long-term experience in the Middle East and believe in making things happen!

## In Lebanon

cewas Middle East, together with Fondation Diane and Berytech has launched the only dedicated start-up programme in sustainable water, sanitation and waste in Lebanon with funds from by The Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation and The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International. In this programme we offer 10-15 start-up teams 12 months of tailored support to develop and bring their social business idea into reality.

We have been active in Lebanon for two years, that we used to build a solid network in Lebanon's start-up sector and WASH-focused NGOs, development organizations and journalists. Together with these partners we implemented a range of trainings, workshops, competitions and events to convey entrepreneurial approaches to traditional development actors on the one hand and emphasize impact-orientation with young entrepreneurs on the other hand. These events were used to develop new project ideas and source the participants for the first start-up programme that we implemented in 2018.

The first start-up programme comprised a four-month intensive training programme and individual tailor-made coaching for 20 entrepreneurs from different start-ups to develop solutions to Lebanon's waste crisis (e.g. Plastic Beach or Turba), for decentralized wastewater management (e.g. Cube X or DeCentra) and making drinking water supply safer for refugees (e.g. Clean2O).

Over the coming years we will continue to provide direct support to dedicated entrepreneurs. In parallel we will intensify our work to develop sustainable sanitation, water and waste management solutions with municipalities and WASH organizations and to build a more enabling environment for social entrepreneurs in Lebanon and the Middle East.

## | Your role and tasks

With support from the cewas Middle East team you will be responsible for the operational implementation of our programme activities in Lebanon and on a strategic level the development of partnerships, fund-raising and the further development of the programme approach to ensure we continue to add value. This means your tasks range from co-designing long-term strategies to buying cookies for the next training course.

More concretely your will:

-  Organize outreach events and business idea competitions together in cooperation with partners
-  Organize the implementation of 3- to 5-day Sustainable Sanitation and Water Management trainings and workshops for partners from the public sector and NGO and development organizations together with a senior trainer
-  Develop and strengthen partnerships for the implementation and anchorage of the programme and raise co-financing from local donor initiatives and philanthropists
-  Recruit the participants for the start-up programme and organize the trainings and related events together with a senior trainer and coach
-  Develop the programme component to foster regional exchange and build a more enabling environment in cooperation with the cewas ME team
-  Manage the communication and reporting around the project in Lebanon

What makes this job most interesting, beyond the broad range of tasks listed above is that you will work with inspiring people who want to change things and get their hands dirty.

Depending on the starting date, it is planned that there will be a detailed hand-over from the person currently responsible for the programme in Lebanon, who will also continue to provide back-stopping and advise over the coming years.

## | What we are looking for

### For the operational tasks:

-  You have good communication and organizational skills – be prepared to work on half a dozen things at the same time.
-  You have organized events or workshops before and ideally you have experience in what it takes to find participants for trainings and workshops.
-  You are a networker, networker, networker.

### For the strategic tasks:

-  You have knowledge of fundraising principles and practices and have written project proposal before. You should not have a problem to put a price tag on our work.
-  You have experience in supporting start-ups or in water, sanitation and waste management that as a basis to analyse how we can improve and implement our programme to deliver added value to our customers
-  You can strike the thin line between being diplomatic, making compromises and being determined, to engage partners and strengthen partnerships.

- ♻️ You are from Lebanon or have experience working there and ideally you have an existing network in the water or start-up sector or a good understanding of relevant funding options in Lebanon

## Other requirements:

- ♻️ You want to do things rather than administering work
- ♻️ We are a decentralized team, which means that you will have to be able to work independently
- ♻️ Implementing an initiative like ours, that is dependent on partnerships and has to be continuously adapted to a very complex environment, means that it is often not clear what is the right thing to do. We love this uncertainty and figuring out a way to still make things work and so should you.
- ♻️ Experience in social media communication is an asset
- ♻️ Perfect English is a pre-condition, Arabic, French & German strong assets

## | Additional information

Contract type: between 60% and 100%. Depending on the profile it is an option to also work in other regional and global cewas projects.

Location: Beirut, Lebanon, with occasional travels in the region and globally

Experience level: between 2 and 8 years

Starting date: As soon as possible starting mid-October.

Please send your CV and a cover letter explaining to us why you'd like to join us to [lillian.volat@cewas.org](mailto:lillian.volat@cewas.org) and [janek.hermannfriede@cewas.org](mailto:janek.hermannfriede@cewas.org)

Questions? Contact Lillian directly