LEAD FOR COMMUNITY-LED HOUSING

About World Habitat

World Habitat is a UK-based international housing charity. We are an independently funded foundation - with a diverse global reach and an exciting future. We have a unique insight and opportunity to influence housing around the globe. In a world which appears overwhelmed with deep problems and challenges, World Habitat looks for solutions that can overcome social injustice and help people thrive.

Our multi-disciplinary Programme Team currently run three programmes: the World Habitat Awards - celebrating the best housing solutions; an International Community-Led Housing Programme; and our European Homelessness campaign – all delivering a range of activities that bring people and ideas together and create real change. We champion the very best housing ideas, and support communities to take control of solving their own housing needs.

We have taken important steps in responding to the climate emergency in terms of our own operations and developing our programmes to be part of the solution. Over the next three years, we plan to increase our focus on responding to the climate emergency and increase the pace of reducing housing emissions to meet net zero.

As a global charity we are committed to improving our approach to equality, diversity and inclusion. Last year we achieved the “Investors in Diversity Award” from the National Centre for Diversity. We have committed to further increase our accountability by building on the diverse nature of our networks to improve our work by actively involving our network in shaping our work and seeking feedback proactively.

About the Community-Led Housing Programme

Our Community-led Housing programme collaborates with individual community-led housing projects in implementing ground-breaking pilot projects. We focus on three specific areas: Informal settlements, refugee settlements, and the heavily owner-occupied housing markets of Central and Eastern Europe.

We also help build international networks that are key in ensuring the major expansion of Community-led Housing by enabling the rapid exchange of skills and knowledge. They also enable us to collaborate with key partners, working together to build the momentum required to achieve change at scale. Through our networks we work to support and boost the work of the next generation of housing pioneers and solutions.

At World Habitat we believe in the need for housing models that increase the availability of long-term, affordable and sustainable housing for low-income groups, which also guarantee security of tenure. We value solutions that influence policy and practice and enable systemic change to ensure greater resilience and housing opportunities for those who need it most.

Our external evaluation at the end of 2021, confirmed the effectiveness of the programme and our value to our partners. It also provided important feedback on our partners’ priorities and how we can make the programme even more effective. From 2022 we will focus on activities which will have the most significant
impact in the following four areas: access to technical knowledge, finance, land acquisition and developing a supportive policy environment.

About you

Part of our multi-disciplinary Programme Team, you will join seven committed and supportive international colleagues who run our three programmes. A small and friendly team we bring together a wide range of experience including housing, homelessness, international development, project management, policy development and network management.

You will want to play a key role in identifying, developing and sharing solutions that have the ability to change people’s lives. You will enjoy working with frontline and international organisations to help them increase their impact and will be effective at developing long-term relationships, often remotely.

You will have the ability to work strategically - quickly building up a picture of what the issues are, understanding what approaches may be effective and creating feedback loops that enable you to continue to effectively develop our approach. Our network members are incredible sources of knowledge, experience and inspiration – you will be able to understand and utilise the power of these networks to help us achieve our mission.

You will understand the importance of sharing great practice and will have experience of raising the profile of effective solutions and understand how to target different audiences.

You will enjoy a varied workload and working with a range of colleagues. In this role you will occasionally be involved in other work areas, for example, assessing applications for the annual World Habitat Awards or attending events on behalf of World Habitat. At times, when you require extra capacity, you will co-ordinate support from your colleagues.

While we are committed to reducing our carbon, some travel will be required to work with our international partners. Fluency in Spanish, French or other second language would be an advantage.

Other information

We recently moved to a new office in Leicester city centre, with the majority of staff utilising a hybrid approach of office and home based working. Our preference is that you will live within commutable distance from our new office, however for the right candidate, we are open to offering a remote working contract (within UK).

We are a flexible and family-friendly employer. We offer a 34.5 hour working week, flexible working including a 9-day working fortnight, a generous pension, life cover and a competitive salary.

At World Habitat we value diversity and we’re committed to creating an inclusive culture. We welcome applicants from all backgrounds and cultures as we seek to increase the diversity of our staff team to reflect our diverse work.

We encourage career development with an appraisal system and opportunities to develop your knowledge and skills.
How to apply

Please complete the Application Form and Equal Opportunities and Diversity monitoring form and return it to recruitment@world-habitat.org and indicate ‘Post: Lead for Community-Led Housing” in the subject field. If you have any specific questions about the role please email Louise.Winterburn@world-habitat.org

Closing Date: Wednesday 25th May 2022 at 1pm (BST)

Interview Date: Wednesday 8th June 2022

Please read the guide to completing the application form - to understand how we will shortlist applications - before completing your application. Please note that as part of our commitment to equality we anonymise applications before shortlisting them to reduce any risk of bias. Due to the high number of applicants, we are only able to provide feedback to candidates to whom we offer an interview.