COMPANY OVERVIEW:
A resilient, net zero and economically secure world is not possible without a healthy, regenerating ocean. The Ocean, one of the planet’s greatest assets, is in crisis. Heating, leading to extreme weather events, sea level rise, and adverse ecosystem changes as well as pollution, overfishing and destructive fishing, rising levels of acidity and biodiversity loss all jeopardize its health. Rebuilding and restoring ‘blue nature’ means protecting the critical impact buffers and biodiversity reservoirs that provide food, social and economic security to billions of people and businesses across the world.

Immediate and scaled action is needed to build resilience to change. It is the mission of the Ocean Risk and Resilience Action Alliance (ORRAA) to build the resilience of 250 million climate vulnerable coastal people by 2030, by deploying at least USD$500 million of investment into coastal and ocean resilience through the development of at least 50 novel finance and insurance products. ORRAA is the only multi-stakeholder convenor connecting the international finance and insurance sectors, governments, non-profits, and stakeholders from the Global South focused on driving financial innovations to deliver a sustainable and equitable blue economy and more resilient coastal communities.

JOB SUMMARY:
As the Senior Associate, Programme, you will be coordinating and supporting the development of an ORRAA community of practice, as well as facilitating investment into locally-led blue carbon and coastal resilience programmes linked to USAID’s Coastal Resilience, Carbon, and Conservation Finance (C3F) initiative.

Numerous barriers exist to investment in blue carbon and coastal resilience programmes; including limited matchmaking ecosystem linkages, limited fit-for-purpose financing tools, lack of common standards, insufficient market intelligence, and limited investment into adaptation solutions. Building an investable project pipeline to drive investment and deliver resilient coastal communities and regenerate nature sits at the core of ORRAA’s work.

ORRAA is working with USAID and its partner, Chemonics, on the C3F initiative, an activity under the Climate Finance Development Accelerator (CFDA). C3F aims to identify and assess opportunities to increase investment in coastal resilience and blue carbon in countries where USAID operates and to establish a community of practice focused on coastal resilience and blue carbon.

The Senior Associate, Programme, will be responsible for leading the development of an ORRAA-wide Community of Practice alongside C3F activities, to identify and assess opportunities to increase investment in coastal resilience and blue carbon in four USAID priority countries. This will include:

1. developing and executing a rapid opportunity screening (ROS) process to evaluate the feasibility of possible blue carbon and coastal resilience investments;
2. designing a menu of technical support and capacity building activities to enhance the investible project pipeline; and
3. establishing a community of practice to coordinate C3F activities, leverage CFDA’s Climate Finance Investment Network, disseminate lessons learned, best practices, and success stories, and leverage ROS recommendations to develop future capacity building activities and investment opportunities.

Collaborating with cross-functional teams, industry experts, and stakeholders, the role will work towards actionable solutions for building coastal and ocean resilience. Through these endeavours, ORRAA is helping to change millions of lives and protect the world’s most valuable and vulnerable coastal ecosystems. The key responsibilities and requirements for this role include:

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Work with the Programme and Risk Director to develop and implement the long-term strategic vision and implementation plan for the C3F initiative and the ORRAA Community of Practice.
- Coordinate the day-to-day management of the C3F initiative, including developing tools hosting team and partner meetings, feedback working groups, and strategic planning sessions. Ensure that action points are tracked, shared with the team, and delivered.
- Work with partners to conduct feasibility studies and identify relevant blue carbon and coastal resilience programmes which contribute to a pipeline of investable projects.
- Provide technical guidance to select additional partners to conduct feasibility studies and build technical capacity at the community level. Support investment matchmaking using the outputs of those capacity building activities and feasibility studies.
- Identify and convene experts in blue carbon, coastal resilience, and ocean conservation and management in a Community of Practice that advances C3F activities and influences climate conversations; facilitates matchmaking and promotes ecosystem linkages; supports professional development; circulates innovations, best practices, knowledge products, and other market intelligence; and elevates marginalised groups.
- Contribute to grant reporting and grant proposal writing; coordinate external partners’ timely inputs into such assets.
- Coordinate with ORRAA’s Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (MEL) team to ensure projects are contributing to ORRAA’s mission and ultimate outcome as well as funder specified deliverables; and that they align with resilience and adaptation metrics and criteria being applied in other sectors.
- Work closely with the ORRAA Communications team to ensure effective communications about the C3F and/or Community of Practice, as appropriate, including for internal and external reporting, on ORRAA’s social media platforms and across assets. Assist in the development and editing of announcements, blogs, presentations, and talking points as needed.
- Inform and update the ORRAA team on project progress, opportunities for engagement and integration into ORRAA’s work programmes and mission.
- Supporting ORRAA’s leadership on other internal and external priorities as needed.

REQUIRED & PREFERRED SKILLS:

- Minimum 3 years of project management experience, with at least 6 years of experience preferred.
- A master’s degree in either finance, economics, political sciences, natural sciences and/or international relations – or equivalent education and experience- preferred.
- Experience working on-the-ground with local communities in the Global South on conservation finance and coastal resilience highly desirable.
- Communicating complex topics to both expert and lay-audiences.
- Experience managing or working under a USAID or other government grant preferred.
- Project management and delivering on multi-project/multi-year work plans.
- Engagement with large and complex stakeholder groups and multiple delivery partners.
- Exceptional attention to detail and strong organisational and time management skills.
- Fluent in verbal and written English. Knowledge of another UN language would be helpful but not essential.
- Highly organised and mission driven.

**WORK ENVIRONMENT:**
- As a fully remote U.S. nonprofit organisation based in Washington D.C., we pride ourselves on our globally dispersed workforce. We conduct all work virtually and work flexible hours to accommodate multiple time zones.
- We may arrange in-person meetings throughout the year.
- International travel may be expected as needed and as safety allows.

**CANDIDATE APPLICATIONS:**
Please send an email to Hiring@OceanRiskAlliance.org, with the title of the position in the subject line.

Applications should include a resume/CV, a cover letter outlining how your skills and experience will benefit ORRAA, and your expectations for rate. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis and only short-listed candidates with the relevant skills and experience will be contacted. The successful candidate must be authorised to work in their country of residence. We are unable to sponsor work authorisation visas.

**DATA PRIVACY:**
Please note that any personal data submitted to ORRAA as part of the job application process will be processed in accordance with the GDPR and related UK data protection legislation, for more information regarding GDPR please see: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guide-to-the-general-data-protection-regulation

**EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER:**
Entry into employment with the ORRAA and progression within employment will be determined only by personal merit and the application of criteria which are related to the duties of each post and the relevant salary structure. In all cases, ability to perform the job will be the primary consideration. No applicant or member of staff shall be discriminated against because of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy or maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation.

No terminology in the advert or job description is intended to discriminate on the grounds of a person’s gender, marital status, race, religion, colour, age, disability or sexual orientation. Every candidate will be assessed only in accordance with their merits, qualifications and abilities to perform the duties of the job.