

Sustainable Development and UN Representative (New York)

About ACT Alliance

ACT Alliance is a coalition of more than 140 churches and affiliated organisations working together in over 100 countries to create positive and sustainable change in the lives of poor and marginalised people regardless of their religion, politics, gender, sexual orientation, race or nationality. ACT Alliance is supported by 25,000 staff from member organisations and mobilises about \$2.5 billion for its work each year in three targeted areas: humanitarian aid; development; and advocacy. ACT Alliance is deeply rooted in the communities it serves. It has earned the trust and respect of local people long before large international interventions scale up, and remains steadfast in its grassroots commitments for many years after world attention has shifted elsewhere. For more details about the general work of ACT, please refer <http://www.actalliance.org/>

Background

ACT Alliance is looking for an experienced practitioner in Sustainable Development to lead its international engagement in transformative development and represent the organisation within the UN and other multi-lateral structures. The position is based in the Ecumenical UN Office in New York with an expectation of up to 10% international travel

Major functions

The Sustainable Development and UN Representative leads the ACT Alliance engagement in transformative development and related policy work and plays a leading role in advocacy and partnerships on the ACT Alliance priority issues towards the New York based United Nations institutions and other partners.

Duties and responsibilities

- Actively forms relationships and partnerships which advance ACT Alliance and the ecumenical movement's agenda
- Supports and enables ACT members collaboration in key transformative development policy issues including Agenda 2030 for sustainable development, religion and development, development effectiveness, financing for development and gender and in implementing the ACT global advocacy strategy
- Represents the ACT Alliance towards the New York based United Nations institutions and other partners
- Supports relevant Secretariat colleagues in wider advocacy issues relevant to UN and other audiences, eg: humanitarian advocacy
- Develops partnerships and fundraises for joint member-led initiatives
- Advises ACT's development policy and advocacy agenda, and in coordination with the Global Advocacy and Policy Coordinator supports the implementation of the global advocacy strategy
- Implements programmes and projects with the ecumenical and other partners to advance the ACT Alliance sustainable development agenda
- Communicates with members, partners and relevant institutions on ACT Alliance engagement in sustainable development
- Advises and supports ACT Regional Representatives on development policy issues relevant to their regions
- Supports the General Secretary, Director and Head of Strategy and Partnerships in external representation, as required

Competences

Committed:

- Committed to the values of the ACT Alliance and is sensitive to expressions of faith across cultures and denominations
- Committed to the values of the ACT Alliance and takes pride in delivering on agreed priorities according to the highest standards individually and as part of a global team

Personal Effectiveness:

- Proactively finds innovative and creative solutions, is efficient and reliable, adapts to change and uncertainty, is decisive and acts with integrity

Working with others:

- Builds effective internal and external relationships, team player who involves others when solving problems and treats others with consideration and respect in an alliance where faith is a key ingredient of people's lives

Passionate:

- Passion for building and developing core skills for the role and contributes knowledge outside of immediate own role

People leadership:

- Effectively motivates, influences and develops others, drives high performance, inspires people to follow them and acts as a role model

Working relationships

- Liaises with the external stakeholders (UN agencies, governmental representations, World Bank, civil society networks and others)
- Engages with ACT members on key transformative development policy and advocacy issues, including facilitating the Alliance strategy group on development policy and practice
- Engages with other ACT secretariat staff on implementing relevant strategies, including advocacy, communications and fundraising
- Advises the regional teams on policy and advocacy issues relevant to transformative development
- Works collaboratively with the Ecumenical UN office staff, including the Head of Office
- Reports to the Head of Strategy and Partnerships

Skills and experience

- A minimum of ten years of relevant work experience including experience in advocacy and representation
- Ability to analyse rapidly changing operational contexts and policy developments and to see opportunities emerging
- Highly developed interpersonal and communications skills including influencing, negotiating, partnership brokering and fundraising
- Good knowledge on key policy issues pertinent to transformative development
- Excellent understanding on the added value of churches and ecumenical movement in transformative development and international relations
- Ability to work flexibly in a networked and high pressure working environment
- Relevant academic degree
- Excellent knowledge of English language, working knowledge of French or Spanish an asset

Deadline for Applications:

Kindly submit your application (letter of motivation and CV) to recruitment@actalliance.org by Friday 28th of October COB. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

