



Erasmus Centre for Strategic Philanthropy

STRATEGY AND IMPACT ADVISOR - SENIOR POSITION

Centre for strategic philanthropy and systemic change

40 hours a week; Rotterdam-based

The Erasmus Centre for Strategic Philanthropy (ECSP) was founded to enhance the performance and effectiveness of the philanthropic sector. We aspire to be a preeminent knowledge and learning centre that supports, stimulates and challenges (non-grantseeking) foundations and their partners in realizing their full potential for societal benefit.

ECSP is embarking on an exciting new phase, with an increased focus on strategic philanthropy and systemic change. To us, these themes relate to the dual challenge of structuring and managing versatile and truly performance-oriented (impact-driven) philanthropic organizations and contributing effectively and efficiently to the resolution of complex societal issues.

ECSP offers capacity-building services to established and beginning (family, independent and corporate) foundations and their main stakeholders in three areas: Training and Education, Advisory Services and Learning Networks and Events. We develop competence-oriented learning programmes, provide 'strategy and impact' advisory services and initiate boundary-crossing research projects.

ECSP is an independent centre, supported by a group of prominent foundations and affiliated with Erasmus University Rotterdam. We embrace the idea of a vital philanthropy knowledge sharing and learning ecosystem for practitioners, experts and academics in Europe. Therefore, ECSP continuously seeks out new partners to explore ways to collaborate and exchange knowledge, such as international membership organizations, research and knowledge institutions and consulting firms.

ECSP emphasizes its bridging role between philanthropy practitioners and academics and our activities are therefore connected to academic research and education where possible. We enjoy working with all international academics that share our interest in developing and sharing relevant knowledge about the potential and effectiveness of foundations and the broader philanthropic sector.

We are a small and dedicated ECSP team (5-6 staff) that draws on a flexible and growing network of partners to help us execute our ambitious programme. The Senior Strategy and Impact Advisor will play a key role in building our presence as a provider of Advisory Services to the European philanthropic sector. He or she will be responsible for the further development of our services in the areas of strategic philanthropy and systemic change. These services may cover a broad range of subjects, e.g. foundation governance; strategy development; impact and theory of change; scaling up; social impact financing; organizational health; public-private partnerships; donor-grantee relations; risk management; fundraising; etc.

Profile

As a Senior Strategy and Impact Advisor you will be part of the management team and you will work with the Executive Director in acquiring, shaping and executing consulting assignments, in designing and delivering (executive) training programs, and in developing resource materials for philanthropic organisations. These responsibilities will include leading and coaching more junior Strategy and Impact Advisors and working with external associates.

You will maintain key partnerships of ECSP and you will lead or contribute to projects that aim to strengthen our role as a bridge between different stakeholders in the field of philanthropy. For example, ECSP has recently started developing 'learning labs' for subjects such as peace philanthropy, poverty in the Netherlands and family philanthropy. These are permanent shared (virtual and physical) spaces, where foundations, their stakeholders and academics come together to develop and share knowledge and to explore how philanthropists can play an effective role in creating systemic and social change.

We are going through an entrepreneurial phase and are therefore looking for highly motivated, pro-active individuals that are willing to participate hands-on in all our activities. The position of Strategy and Impact Advisor allows for a high degree of autonomy and initiative, but also requires an understanding and appreciation for the fact that we produce our best work through a process of co-creation and unrestricted collegial feedback.

Job description

- Acting as stand-in for the Executive Director when required and representing ECSP externally at client and partner meetings, events, training sessions and presentations.
- Maintaining an on-going dialogue with different stakeholders to identify knowledge and learning needs in the philanthropic sector, and translating these into interesting consulting and training opportunities.
- Providing consulting and (executive) training services to practitioners in the philanthropic sector as part of our capacity-building programme.

- Converting results of consulting assignments into useful resource materials for knowledge dissemination through training and education, speaking engagements and general publications.
- Coaching of junior colleagues in the enhancement of their consulting and training skills.

Qualifications & Requirements

- Relevant master's degree.
- At least 10 years relevant working experience.
- Experience in the philanthropy/NGO sector or proven affinity with the goals and target groups of ECSP.
- Track record as a professional provider of consulting and training services.
- In-depth knowledge of subjects or themes that are relevant to ECSP's target groups (e.g. foundation governance; strategy development; impact and theory of change; scaling up; social impact financing; organizational health; public-private partnerships; donor-grantee relations; risk management; fundraising).
- Knowledge of quantitative and qualitative research and evaluation methods.
- Proven skills in communication (both writing and oral), people management and project management.
- Fluent in Dutch and English, both spoken and written.
- State-of-the-art computer skills.
- Mindset: service-oriented, result-driven, problem solver, professional, flexible, pro-active, hands-on, autonomous and a team player.

ECSP offer

ECSP offers a challenging and interesting job opportunity, initially for 1 year (with the intent to continue), in a rapidly developing field of work. The office is currently located at the Erasmus University Rotterdam (Campus Woudestein). The solid compensation package is in line with the sector and will be based on age and experience. ECSP has a fulltime workweek of 40 hours and offers 25 vacation days a year, based on a fulltime employment agreement. The starting date is as soon as possible.

Application procedure

Suitable candidates can send their resume and cover letter in English to Ms. Arwen Hoogenbosch, at hoogenbosch@ese.eur.nl by 23 December 2016 at the latest. Please refer to 'Senior Strategy and Impact Advisor' in the subject title.

For more information: www.ecsp.nl.