

PRI European Network Manager

Location: London / Frankfurt

Duration: full time

Application deadline: October 15 2013

Start date: immediate start available

Remuneration: competitive for non for profit sector

Key language requirement: English (fluent), German (fluent), French (fluent)

Job description:

This is a unique opportunity for a mid-career professional to join a growing team dedicated to providing practical guidance to investors across various countries on the implementation of responsible investment practices. On the one hand, you would be interacting with asset owners and investors in Germany, Switzerland, Austria, the Netherlands, Belgium and France to maintain a strong presence from the PRI in these countries. On the other hand, you would be working directly with the Head of Networks and PRI Secretariat teams to support signatories' implementation of the PRI across different countries and different asset classes, such as equities, fixed income, private equity, property, microfinance, ESG-themed investments and more. You would report to the Head of Networks and interact with the whole PRI team in London and elsewhere. This position involves a lot of travel within Continental Europe.

About the German Network

Established in 2010, the Germany network is one of the most rapidly developing networks within the PRI. There is growing interest in responsible investment in Germany, but one of the biggest challenges to date has been language barriers. To tackle this, and to provide investors with information and support in a local language on how to implement the Principles, the German Network has been involved in a number of projects, including:

Cooperation with the German Ministry of the Environment to publish the PRI Guidelines for the German market in a local language.

Partnership with the Nachhaltigkeitskodex and the IRCC in Germany to encourage ESG issues to be factored into market regulation and requirements.

Partnership with the Global Compact German Network and European Bond Commission to include ESG criteria for the bond market in Germany.

The Network reaches out to pension funds in the country as well as other German speaking countries such as Austria and Switzerland.

Current working groups include:

Awareness Working Group

Focused on raising awareness about the materiality of ESG issues for investment processes among asset owners, investment managers and service providers in Germany.

Recruitment and Engagement Working Group

Focused on engagement opportunities in the German market and the recruitment of new signatories.

No other country within Continental Europe has a formal PRI Network operating at present, it will be the job of the Network Manager to develop these.

Core responsibilities:

- Support Signatories in their implementation of the Principles through best practice development and dissemination, shareholder collaboration, and other relevant activities.
- Facilitate the coordination, meetings and activities of the PRI German network and the network working groups, and generate Signatory events in the Netherlands, Switzerland and France
- Liaise with local signatories and develop strong working relationships.
- Develop new Signatory recruitment in Continental Europe.
- Act as a liaison between the PRI German Network, other Signatories in Continental Europe and the rest of the PRI community.
- Develop relationships with other organizations in the responsible investment, SRI, institutional investment and sustainability fields to ensure PRI's work is complementary to existing initiatives.
- Feed back to the Head of Networks and other members of the PRI team on key activities and issues arising in Continental Europe.
- Participate in relevant conferences / trade shows / seminars in Continental Europe.

Responsibilities may include any or all of the following:

- Lead recruitment meetings and PRI presentations to potential signatories in Continental Europe.
- Represent PRI in key local conferences and RI related forums.

- Support the local working groups work with insights and research.
- Organise local PRI events and/or signatory workshops.
- Manage email correspondence, conference calls, meetings and events involving PRI signatories and other stakeholders.
- Prepare agendas, minutes and progress updates.
- Manage PRI signatory extranet and databases.
- Participate in PRI team commitments, such as: general team calls/meetings, networks calls/meetings and other team related duties.
- Act as a liaison between the PRI German network, activities in the Netherlands, Belgium and France and the rest of the PRI community to make sure that local investors are aware of broader PRI initiatives and encourage participation in such initiatives where applicable.
- Analyse signatories' activities and progress on implementation of the PRI in the network in the Netherlands, Belgium and France on a yearly basis .

Requirements:

- Thorough knowledge of the RI sector in Germany, France and the Netherlands, (knowledge of Belgium and Austria markets is a plus).
- 4 + Years relevant work experience. Experience in finance, investment analysis or institutional sales is a plus.
- Strong interest in responsible investment and environmental, social, governance issues in general.
- Ability to learn quickly and get 'up to speed' within a short time.
- Degree in a PRI-related field (finance, economics, business administration, responsible investment, law).
- High-level written and spoken English, German and French.
- Confidence to relate to and interact with senior investment professionals and to do speaking engagements to large audiences.
- Professional maturity: ability to complete tasks without constant supervision, well organised and reliable.
- Outstanding project management skills.
- Full time commitment .
- Confidence with a range of IT and Internet tools.
- Diplomacy, tact, and the ability to get on with people and fit into a multi-cultural team.
- Residence in London or Frankfurt.

- This is not a 9-5 job. We expect the successful candidate to demonstrate desire to achieve the highest standards of professional delivery in an international investment and policy environment.

What you would gain from position:

- A deep understanding of the PRI and a solid grounding in responsible investment in general.
- Experience of working in a dynamic and fast growing unique United Nations partnership. The opportunity to shape and further develop PRI work in Continental Europe.
- Experience in research, project management, teamwork and other essential skills required for a career in responsible investment.
- Exposure to a broad range of environmental, social and corporate governance issues from the investment perspective.
- A great network of decision makers professionals from pension funds, asset managers and service providers.
- The position has significant scope for professional development. International travel opportunities are available.

About the PRI

The Principles for Responsible Investment is an investor initiative in partnership with UNEP Finance Initiative and the UN Global Compact. Launched by former UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan, the PRI is a set of voluntary best practice principles to assist investors in integrating environmental, social and corporate governance (ESG) issues into investment processes and ownership practices. The principles are supported by a Secretariat that promotes the PRI and provides implementation support to signatories.