



## Vacancy Announcement ATPS Senior Communications Officer

The African Technology Policy Studies Network (ATPS) is a leading regional network of African scholars and policymakers engaged in research, capacity building and policy advocacy on issues of science and technology for Africa's sustainable development. Its mission is to improve the quality of science and technology policies to eradicate poverty. Working primarily through National Chapters in at least 23 African countries, ATPS supports research, training and related activities on topical and emerging science and technology policy on biotechnology, information and communication technologies, technology transfer, science policy, among others. For more details about ATPS, please visit our website at [www.atpsnet.org](http://www.atpsnet.org).

ATPS is seeking to recruit a dynamic individual to fill the position of **Senior Communications Officer** to be based at its secretariat in Nairobi, Kenya. Reporting to the Executive Director, he/she will be responsible for providing leadership to the ATPS Communications and Knowledge Management activities. In liaison with the ATPS Research and Training Team, ensure that outputs from ATPS thematic and non-thematic activities are published in relevant media, and effectively communicated to relevant stakeholders. The post holder will also be responsible for developing and managing the ATPS web-based Knowledge for Development and outreach program to bridge the gaps between science, technology and innovation research, policy and practice in Africa.

Major responsibilities will include:

- Manage the ATPS science communication and knowledge management strategy, including the web-based platforms, regional workshops, and other outreach and advocacy events.
- Support the overall ATPS Network's strategy to bridge the gaps between science and technology and innovation research, policy and practice for African development.
- In liaison with the ATPS Research, Training and Communications Leader, assist ATPS national chapters and researchers to translate relevant ATPS research outputs into various publications including articles in international journals, ATPS publication series, popular articles, book volumes, and publications in the fourth estate.
- Co-ordinate the ATPS public relations activities, including publication of in-house newsletters twice a year, news articles, bibliographies, brochures, program promotions, media outreach, etc.
- Assist with finding funding sources and fundraising activities of the ATPS Secretariat and Regional chapters.
- Assist the ATPS Research, Training and Communications team to organize peer review of ATPS Research outputs for publication in ATPS publication series: ATPS Research Paper Series, Working Paper Series, and Technology Policy Brief Series.
- Manage the regular updating of the ATPS website and the ATPS Knowledge for development platform.
- In collaboration with the Communications Team, organize and support media and public awareness events and campaigns and special events such as the Scientific Revival Day of Africa.
- Profile stakeholders and target group information and knowledge needs to determine appropriate knowledge sharing and dissemination tools.
- Manage the ATPS public awareness and press/media strategy.

### Qualifications, skills and abilities

- A doctorate degree ST&I related fields or equivalent experience with formal training in science journalism or communication.

- At least 3 years experience in a science communication environment with progressive responsibilities, including international experience. Candidate will be required to provide sample publications in different media.
- Demonstrated ability to use new technologies for communication and outreach, including web and multimedia tools, Geographic Information Systems (GIS), etc.
- Demonstrated capacity and ability to fundraise and manage knowledge networks
- Proficiency in French will be a major advantage
- Good analytical skills
- Good interpersonal skills and good team player.
- Ability to work as part of a multi-cultural and multi-disciplinary team.
- Demonstrate ability to deliver on deadlines.

The vacancy is expected to be filled by 30 October 2008. A comparative international salary and benefits will be offered to the successful applicant. The initial contract period will be for 3 years.

Qualified candidates should send a detailed letter of interest and curriculum vitae to [hr@atpsnet.org](mailto:hr@atpsnet.org), no later than 30<sup>th</sup> September 2008.