



Managing Lawyer– Pasifika (Pacific) Program - Position Description

EDO relies on our people to use their skills and experience to provide the best possible support to our clients and other staff. While this job description aims to outline the fundamental reason the role exists, the role may evolve as EDO evolves.

If you see a way to play to your strengths in a way that achieves EDO outcomes, please don't be limited to this list. We have important work to do and need everyone to be operating at their best.

Job title: Managing Lawyer – Pasifika (Pacific) Program

Reporting to: Director – Systemic Change

Purpose of the position

The Managing Lawyer – Pasifika (Pacific) Program will devise, implement, and evaluate legal strategies which seek to protect the environment of the Pacific. The Managing Lawyer will engage with legal issues concerning the protection of nature all-encompassing as it is and the threat of climate change. The work will engage with questions concerning indigenous rights, human rights, and climate change in the Pacific.

Our Pasifika (Pacific) Program is focused on strengthening public interest environmental law in the Pacific. To date the Program has focused on partnerships and work in Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Vanuatu, and the Solomon Islands. Our work involves working hand in hand with lawyers and partner organisations in the Pacific to run cases in local courts, analyse policy and law, conduct community outreach training and support communications and stories about environmental issues in the Pacific.

The Managing Lawyer will also be a key interface with international donors, environmental lawyers, journalists, and human rights organisations to maximise the impact of our work.

Key responsibilities & duties

Reporting to the Director, Systemic Change the Managing Lawyer will be working collaboratively with the team members, partners, and other stakeholders, to develop and implement the strategic goals of the Pasifika Program.

This will include leading on public engagement and communications, fundraising (with our Philanthropy and Fundraising Teams), seminars, and publications, as well as having oversight of the programme of litigation, law reform and advice work undertaken by the Program.

The Managing Lawyer will play a key strategic role within the Systemic Change Team and, with the Director of Legal Strategy, will be pre-eminently responsible for the design of the annual operational plan agreed to achieve the EDO's goals set in respect of our Pasifika Program. Accordingly, duties may include:



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Strategic direction

- The provision of strategic advice to the Director of Legal Strategy in respect of the Pasifika Program and the provision of input into the development of annual and strategic plans.
- Successfully overseeing a programme of legal work that delivers on the annual outcomes sought by the approved plans for Pasifika Program

Enduring and respectful two-way relationships of trust with indigenous peoples and our local partners

- Manage EDOs relationships with local partners throughout the Pacific and build strong trust and ties between EDO and our partners.
- Set standards and protocols for EDO's work in the Pacific, including communications.

Leadership and staff management

- Working closely with the EDO leadership team to ensure collaboration, information sharing, innovation and efficiency are a feature of our practice.
- Supervision and mentoring of solicitors within the Safe Climate, Pasifika Team (degree dependent on seniority and experience).

Casework and program management

- Overseeing the provision of legal services by Pasifika Program Team – including compliance with professional obligations.
- Ensuring the quality of the legal work delivered by the Pasifika Program Team
- Ensuring EDO work in the Pacific is delivered in a culturally competent manner.
- Collaborating with international and regional partners to develop strategies to maximise the impact of our work.
- Networking, identifying potential partners and building relationships.
- Identifying potential funding sources, preparing grant applications, developing and managing relationships with international donors and leveraging Australian Government support, including developing Australian volunteer placements with partners across the Pacific.
- Working with partner organisations in the Pacific and to develop placements through AusAID's AYAD, VIDA and AVI programs.

External relations

- Representing EDO in the Media as required and in agreement with the Director Fundraising, Marketing & Communications (FMC) and the FMC team.
- Working with non-EDO partners to advance EDO's goals.
- Building and maintain relationships with key stakeholders including relevant government agencies/departments, the legal profession, investors and shareholders,



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other NGOs, traditional owner groups and other communities and community-based organisations.

Fundraising and Promotion

- Maintaining relationships with key donor partners
- Identify potential funding sources and preparing grant applications/pitches.
- Liaising with stakeholders to obtain in-kind support.
- Promoting the services of the office to the community, key stakeholders, and donors.

Policy and law reform

- Engaging in policy and law reform work, including participating in government policy processes, and developing and maintaining relationships with key stakeholders.

Outreach and communications

- Undertaking public education and outreach, including developing online resources and fact sheets, preparing, and presenting papers, and conducting workshops or seminars.
- Participating in conferences and education work with Pacific Island partners.
- Writing plain English educational materials.
- Preparing articles for EDO publications.

General

All staff have a responsibility to:

- Developing and maintain a good knowledge of EDO's role and policies.
- Representing EDO in a positive and effective manner by actively demonstrating EDO Values.
- Attending, and contributing actively and constructively at staff meetings.
- Maintaining appropriate records, assisting with office administration, such as files, computer, and precedent systems.
- Seeking opportunities for personal and professional development, particularly related to the team and the position's specific areas of responsibility.
- Responding to requests by clients and fellow staff in a knowledgeable, professional, constructive, and respectful manner.
- Providing accurate and timely data and information for reporting, fundraising and communication purposes.

Commitment to EDO's Values:



Environmental Defenders Office

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Commitment

- We are committed to; a united organisation, to each other, to collaboration, to justice, to our communities, and to creating a world where nature thrives.
- We are committed to providing excellent legal services and resources, informed by the best available science, in order to empower clients and communities.
- We are committed to improving our planet and society.
- We care for EDO’s clients and stakeholders.
- We are fearless in the face of adversity, and care for each other as we face this adversity.

Diversity

- We are respectful of and welcome diversity of staff, volunteers, offices, environmental regions, communities, stakeholders.
- We respect First Nations Peoples’ knowledge and experience, and work with them to protect their country and culture.
- We acknowledge that the Western law has not always been just.
- We dedicate ourselves to understanding the diversity of our people and culture.
- We welcome and respect our own differences, learn from them and collaborate to achieve our greatest potential.
- We are great lawyers and great people, with open hearts and open minds.
- We respect the different places our stakeholders come from and strive to help them, even if their worldviews don’t align completely with ours.

Integrity

- We work effectively, efficiently, strategically, professionally and ethically; “justice is in our nature”.
- We are truthful with ourselves and others.
- We are nonpartisan and inspire trust in our clients, stakeholders and government.
- We respect the world's resources and make maximum productive use of the resources entrusted to us.

Vision

- We lead change and environmental empowerment using innovation, creativity, and courage.
- We expand the boundaries with creativity and skill, pioneering new legal pathways to a healthier, safer world and inspiring others.
- We are inquisitive, curious and persistent: exploring new ideas and embracing change.
- We boldly challenge the status quo while providing solutions to our most pressing challenges.