

Senior Programme Manager – Narratives (8-month parental cover)

Location: London or Amsterdam

Duration: 8-month contract between mid-August 2024 to mid-April 2025

80%-100%

About Laudes Foundation

Laudes Foundation is an independent foundation accelerating the transition to a green, fair and inclusive economy. We do this by supporting brave action that inspires and challenges industry to harness its power for good. We focus on four key industries with an outsized impact on climate change, nature and social inequality: the built environment, finance and capital markets, fashion, and food. Complementing these industry-specific initiatives, our cross-cutting work in labour rights, finance and narratives amplify our impact across all sectors.

What you'll do

This role sits within the Strategy, Innovation and Narratives team and focuses on co-designing, adapting and delivering the Narratives grant programme.

Despite an abundance of narratives pushing for green, fair and inclusive transitions, many fail to engage the individuals capable of instigating change. Our aim is to disrupt this status quo by strengthening and disseminating narratives that are compelling, evidence-based and grounded in solutions, tailored to spark meaningful action among key influencers across business, finance and government.

We look for initiatives that enable decision-makers to engage with and champion inspiring new frameworks, models and tools for industry transitions; build capacity of news professionals to connect climate and just transition across all beats of the newsroom; and convene decision-makers in business, policy and finance in a way that effectively fosters peer-to-peer influence. To ensure our efforts are focused and impactful, certain areas fall outside the scope of our Narratives programme including building public will and amplification of narratives not directly tied to industry transitions such as broad economic policy reform.

Key responsibilities

Strategy. Collaborate with the Director of Strategy, Innovation and Narratives and consult with Directors and Heads of other Laudes teams to strengthen the strategy for the Narratives grant programme. This involves engaging and consulting regularly with the Laudes' Investment Committee on the grant programme strategy, including what we are learning and how we should adapt. In addition, support the senior management team in ensuring a strong approach to narrative-building is integrated into all grant programmes.

Delivery. Deliver the agreed programme by defining clear annual objectives, establishing programme credibility, executing against plans, and evaluating relevant results frameworks to maximise impact.

Partner Development and Management. Develop a robust pipeline of partnerships in line with the Narratives programme strategy. Alongside the Director of Strategy, Innovation and Narratives, establish coalitions of actors across the Narratives programme.

Ambassadorship. Act as an ambassador and technical expert in relevant fora and governance bodies to build the credibility and leadership of the foundation and promote narrative-building interventions and innovative ideas related to industry transitions.

Research. Identify gaps in the interventions and ecosystem of actors working on narrative-building that supports green, fair and inclusive industry transitions.

Convening. Further the dialogue across the Strategy, Innovation and Narratives team and Industry Programme teams by working with the Directors and Heads of programme to bring together thought leaders, experts, other funders and campaigners promoting discussion regarding the systemic changes needed across media, business, capital markets and EU policy and what can be done in narrative field-building to catalyse and implement those changes.

Learning. Proactively contribute to a learning dynamic within the foundation by researching, analysing and sharing new and relevant insights with the wider team, colleagues across the foundation and governors.

Culture. Alongside the senior management team, play an active role in the development and maintenance of a culture of excellence, teamwork and trust at the Foundation.

What you've done

To be successful in this role, you have a strong understanding of the role of narrative-building in driving decision-makers to act on green, fair and inclusive transitions, as well as proven track-record of leading or influencing networks of organisations to deliver on shared goals.

You will have:

- At least seven years' experience developing new programmes and delivering interventions that support industry transformation, ideally in the fields of advocacy and/or strategic communications.
- Excellent analytical skills with a demonstrated ability to break down and communicate complex problems and define direction.
- Excellent communication skills – able to present and engage in dialogue with C-Suite level – and able to influence at all levels.
- Able to articulate the role of narrative-building in addressing climate change and inequality with a demonstrable ability to translate theory into action.
- An understanding and awareness of how philanthropy functions and where and how to intervene in order to bring about system change.
- Adept at building and maintaining networks and collaboration. Skilled at building and maintaining relationships at every level, able to work across cross-functional project teams.
- Adaptability to changing contexts and able to work under pressure while adhering to process and retaining attention to detail whilst working under pressure to many deadlines.
- A people person and a great team player with line management experience.
- Both oral and written English at a business level.

Desirable:

- Experience in long-term communications work and day-to-day impact (e.g. media booking, rapid response messaging).
- Awareness of long-term economic shifts that will direct industry towards a trajectory of green, fair and inclusive transitions.
- A demonstrable understanding of what makes “news” or “narrative” in different contexts and the challenges faced by news media in increasing coverage on climate and just transitions and measuring its impact.
- Direct experience in philanthropy an advantage.