



Opportunity with Dakshin Foundation

Number of vacancies: One

Position: Research Assistant – Biodiversity and Resource Monitoring Programme (Green turtle and seagrass meadow monitoring in the Lakshadweep islands)

Duration: January 2020 onwards (1 year)

Project description: The Lakshadweep islands are important nesting and foraging grounds for green turtles (*Chelonia mydas*). In the last decade, reports suggest that their numbers have increased resulting in a drastic decline in seagrass densities in these islands. This project aims to track the changing abundances of green turtle numbers as well as seagrass densities in the Lakshadweep island lagoons.

Position Description : The position involves conducting on-board and in-water surveys to measure the densities of green turtles and seagrasses respectively, in the lagoons of Agatti, Kadmat and Kalpeni. As the surveys include in-water techniques, candidates with training in SCUBA or free-diving will be given preference. The selected candidate will be responsible for data collection, analysis and dissemination of the findings. He/She will also liaise with the governmental departments and other concerned individuals/organisations on behalf of the project and Dakshin Foundation. Additionally, he/she will be required to assist with other activities conducted by Dakshin Foundation in the Lakshadweep islands.

Location: The position will be based in the Lakshadweep islands and Bengaluru.

Essential qualifications

- A post-graduate, preferably a Master's degree in Marine Biology, Wildlife Sciences or other related disciplines with some experience in conducting biological research
- Competent swimmer; comfortable working in depths up to 6-7 m
- Proficient in data collection and basic analysis tools such as Microsoft Excel
- Excellent communication skills
- Ability to work independently
- Willingness to travel alone

Desirable qualifications

- Trained in SCUBA or free-diving
- Working knowledge of Malayalam

Last date to apply: 20th December 2019

Remuneration: Dependent on qualification and experience, consistent with internal standards of Dakshin Foundation. Travel and accommodation in the field will be covered by the project.

How to apply:

Interested candidates may send a complete CV along with a cover letter (not exceeding one page) clearly conveying your motivation and suitability for this position. Please provide the names and contact details of two academic referees. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Please email your applications to Muralidharan M. at murali@dakshin.org with the subject titled- “Application for Research Assistant – Green turtle project”.

About Dakshin Foundation

Dakshin Foundation is a non-profit, non-governmental organization based in Bengaluru, India, with field offices across the coastline of India and in its oceanic islands. Our mission is to inform and advocate conservation and natural resource management, while promoting and supporting sustainable livelihoods, social development and environmental justice. To learn more about our interventions and research projects, visit our website (www.dakshin.org).

Disclaimer: This position is open only for Indian nationals (OCI/PIO’s not exempted) as the project is based in Lakshadweep which requires a restricted area permit to access.