

IUCN, the International Union for Conservation of Nature, was founded in 1948 and brings together over 1,100 members (States, government agencies, NGOs and affiliates) and some 11,000 scientists and experts from 181 countries in a unique worldwide partnership. Its mission is to influence, encourage and assist societies throughout the world to conserve the integrity and diversity of nature and to ensure that any use of natural resources is equitable and ecologically sustainable. Within the framework of global conventions IUCN has helped over 75 countries to prepare and implement national conservation and biodiversity strategies. IUCN has approximately 1,100 staff, most of whom are located in its regional and country offices while some 150 work at its Headquarters in Gland, Switzerland.

INTERN - WATER & WETLANDS PROGRAMME

Location: Pretoria, South Africa

Reporting: Senior Programme Officer, Water & Wetlands /Drylands

Work Percentage: to be determined

Background

The IUCN Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Water and Wetlands Programme works to assist governments and other bodies in the region with their response to water and wetland resources management challenges. It also assists in the regional search to establish a proper balance between the needs of society and the intrinsic value of biodiversity and ecosystems. The mission of the Water and Wetlands Programme is to "influence, encourage and assist societies in Eastern and Southern Africa to sustainably manage water and wetland resources, ensuring biodiversity conservation, equitable development and improved human livelihoods."

The Water and Wetlands Programme is currently looking for an Intern to join its team in the South Africa office, based in Pretoria. The Intern will support the work of the Senior Programme Officer, Water & Wetlands/Drylands in the implementation of projects within the Water and Wetlands Programme.

Specific Responsibilities

- Assist with research and writing of, technical reports on water related matters, such as Integrated Water Resources Management, the Ecosystem Approach, environmental flows etc;
- Assist with the analysis and identification of stakeholders in water and wetland project sites using appropriate tools;
- Assist with the research and compilation of a compendium of tools, methodologies and case studies used globally to support
 approaches promoted by the water programme, e.g. tools on integrated water resources management, mainstreaming the
 ecosystem approach and decision support tools;
- Assist in the compilation of communication materials to raise awareness and promote Water and Wetlands Programme projects:
- Assist with short-term project tasks as needed.

Competencies

- A proven high standard of interpersonal, communication (oral and written) and teamwork skills with a demonstrated ability to collaborate effectively with a broad range of individuals and groups from a wide range of cultural backgrounds
- Excellent report writing, proofreading and editing skills with a strong command of the English language in its written and spoken form
- Excellent research skills and ability to work independently towards a clear goal
- Good knowledge and skills in the use of relevant computer programs
- Demonstrated professionalism, maturity and sound judgment
- A high level of organisational skill; excellent attention to detail

Education and Experience

 A Ph.D. or Master's student, who has studied in Natural or Environmental Sciences (e.g. Integrated Water Resources Management, Biological Science, Environmental Science, Geography, Ecology) or interrelated disciplines

Timeframe for internship

This position is ideally suited for a young postgraduate or professional, who seeks to gain further experience in conservation and environmental management with a focus on water and wetlands. The internship will initially be for 3 month period, with the possibility of extension for another 3 months depending on performance and the needs of the Water and Wetlands Programme. A monthly stipend will be awarded to cover personal costs.

Applications

Interested applicants should submit their CV, and a letter of motivation to the following email address: iucnsa@iucn.org no later than the Friday, 20 September 2013... The application should state clearly both what the applicant can offer IUCN and what they themselves hope to gain from the internship. An example of writing, such as a thesis, published paper, report etc that was prepared and written by the applicant should also be included.

Applications will not be accepted after the closing date. Please note that only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

IUCN is an equal opportunity employer. Qualified women and members of ethnic minorities or disadvantaged groups are encouraged to apply. This internship is open to those with the right to work in the Republic of South Africa.

Other job opportunities are published in the IUCN website: http://www.iucn.org/involved/jobs/