

## **Scientist: Statistical Ecology**

**Salary commensurate with qualifications and experience in terms of the SANBI career ladder  
Cape Town**

SANBI is seeking to appoint a highly motivated individual to undertake quantitative population ecology research relevant for conservation and sustainable use of South Africa's biodiversity; and to provide statistical and quantitative decision support to a wide range of projects within SANBI. The position requires a scientist with good communication skills.

Appointment requires a PhD in statistics, with a strong ecology background or a PhD in ecology, with a strong statistical background, coupled with at least 1 to 2 years' relevant work experience. Qualification and experience must be enhanced by proficiency in computer programmes, application of R statistical software, hierarchical modelling, Bayesian analyses and analysis of big observational data sets coupled with the ability to publish peer-reviewed articles.

### **KEY RESPONSIBILITIES WILL INCLUDE:**

- Development and implementation of research projects on population ecology and demographics of species of special concern, and indicator species subject to key threats and produce scientific reports and/or papers;
- Development and implementation of methodologies for biodiversity trend detection and attribution for quantitative decision support for biodiversity management responses and strategies;
- Providing statistical support focusing mainly on trend detection, attribution and demographic approaches to other research groups within the institute;
- Contributing to SANBI's capacity development initiatives in statistical numeracy (students or interns) or enhance own statistical skills;
- Attracting external funding for projects.

Please note that the successful candidate should have a good spoken and written command of English. Possession of a valid Code B driver's license with at least one year's driving experience would be an added advantage.

SANBI offers an all-inclusive annual salary package commensurate with qualification and experience. The incumbent will be placed on the SANBI career ladder for scientists.

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**Please Note: 1) Portfolio of evidence (Scientists application form) must be accompanied by a letter motivating why the applicant should be favourably considered for the position and confirming that the minimum qualifications are met (applicants lacking evidence of relevant experience will not be considered). Portfolio of evidence template can be requested by [recruitmentct@sanbi.org.za](mailto:recruitmentct@sanbi.org.za) 2) A competency test may be conducted as part of the selection process. 3) Applicants must also provide the full names, address and telephone number and if possible e-mail address of at least three referees. 4) Failure to submit the requested information may result in your application not being considered.**

Persons with disabilities are encouraged to apply. SANBI reserves the right not to fill this position.

All applications will be considered with the understanding that, in terms of the SANBI Employment Equity Plan, preference will currently be given to candidates from the designated groups.

**Contact Ms Zena Appollis on 021 799 8647/8800 or, preferably, forward the completed portfolio of evidence form (available from [recruitmentct@sanbi.org.za](mailto:recruitmentct@sanbi.org.za)) a motivational letter, certified qualifications and concise CV via e-mail to [recruitmentct@sanbi.org.za](mailto:recruitmentct@sanbi.org.za) or fax 021 762 3229. Postal applications are to be addressed to the Deputy Director: Human Resources, South African National Biodiversity Institute, Private Bag X7, Claremont, 7735.**

**Closing Date: 27 December 2013**

Candidates are expected to be available for selection interviews on a date and time as determined by SANBI.

*If no response has been received within 30 days of the closing date, candidates may consider their applications were unsuccessful.*