

Towards a participative, inclusive and sustainable management of the forest landscape complex of Outamba-Kilimi, Kuru Hills (Sierra Leone) and Penselli – Soyah - Sabouyah (Guinea) – PAP4 OKKPSS



Job Advert

Tacugama Chimpanzee Sanctuary is recruiting !

Title	Biomonitor (16 posts)
Location	Outamba Kilimi National Park and Kuru Hills Forest reserve
Management	Conservation Manager and Assistant Conservation Manager, Tacugama
Project Hubs	Biomonitoring & Environment and Community Development

Tacugama and the OKKPSS project Sierra Leone

Tacugama is the Sierra Leone partner of the trans-boundary OKKPSS project, funded by the European Union, for which the Wild Chimpanzee Foundation is the lead partner and partner for activities in Guinea.

OKKPSS aims to improve the management and protection of the priority landscape of Outamba-Kilimi and Kuru Hills in Sierra Leone and Penselli, Soyah and Sabouyah in Guinea. The landscape is considered a priority conservation area due to its high densities of the critically endangered Western Chimpanzee and the presence of a further 56 Globally Threatened vertebrates, including African Forest Elephant, Lion, Sierra Leone Prinia and three species of Pangolin.

In association with the Government’s National Protected Areas Authority and the area’s residents and stakeholders, the project seeks to gather the baseline data and put in place the necessary activities to achieve its goals.

Objectives of the post

Carry out monitoring, sensitisation and communication for the activities listed below.

Activities will mostly be within the Park in which the biomonitoring will be carried out (Outamba, Kilimi or Kuru Hills) and most activities will enable the biomonitor to be based overnight in their community. However, there will sometimes be field work, training and meetings that require the biomonitor to spend nights away from the community.

Main activities of the project

Sensitisation and Communication (for specified communities)

- Raise awareness in the community about the protection of fauna and flora, any rules established between the communities and the Park, sustainable management, good practice (e.g. in bush fire management, wood cutting, hunting, agriculture) and the themes of the OKKPSS project.
- Facilitate communication and dissemination of information relating to the Project, the Park and wildlife conservation.
- Maintain communication between the Project and the communities
- Support the technical team in implementing the community development activities.
- Support Nature Clubs

Surveillance and monitoring

- Gather data, through patrols specified by management, on human activities that are contrary to the aims of the Park and the Project and wildlife signs, using a smartphone and apps
- Report data to management and, where immediate action may be required, to the Park authorities, under systems of communication to be established by the management
- Participate in joint patrols with WCF staff
- Support ecological monitoring
- Verbal reports regularly to management

Due to the lack of certification, biomonitors are not permitted to be involved in seizure or confiscation of objects or arrest of persons.

Other responsibilities

- Have a general knowledge of the Wild Chimpanzee Foundation and Tacugama Chimpanzee Sanctuary ; their structure, functioning and values.
- Be aware of the objectives and activities of the Project.

- Be aware of the objectives and activities of other organizations (for example the National Protected Areas Authority) and respect their rules and procedures.
- Where necessary and possible, verbally translate conversations

Rules to respect

- Confidentiality is required and a breach of this may be punished.
- Report any work problems to the management.
- Treat all employees equally, regardless of position.
- During work, do not consume alcohol or drugs, do not leave waste on the ground and respect other behavioural rules of WCS or TCS for the project that may be introduced.

Experience and competence required

Qualifications

- No education qualifications are required

Experience required

- Knowledge of one or more community territories within Outamba, Kilimi or Kuru Hills
- Ideally (but not essential) experience of community and/or conservation projects
- Verbal knowledge of Susu and/or Limbe and preferably some English
- Local knowledge of the wildlife occurring within the Park and how to identify it by signs

Personal qualities required

- Confidentiality, good character and discretion
- A good level of physical fitness
- Ability to mobilise and involve village populations in environmental issues and sustainable development
- Organization and autonomy
- Motivation
- A real interest in the OKKPSS Project and its partners
- Commitment to live and work in the areas of the OKKPSS project where project work is required.
- Ability to ride motorbikes on difficult terrain
- Have a liking for field work and ability to live in the villages conditions of the OKKPSS area.
- Ability to work in a team, with a sense of responsibility
- Open-mindedness

In all areas of work she/he is expected to be proactive; that is to make proposals to improve or adapt to the project. Her/his supervisor can ask her/him to carry out additional project tasks when necessary.

This job description covers the main responsibilities of the position. However, it may be required to perform other tasks and accept greater flexibility in the management of the position, without this being considered as a modification of the contract.