



TACUGAMA CHIMPANZEE SANCTUARY is Hiring! *for the project*

Targeted actions to enhance habitat regeneration, conservation, and biodiversity in the Outamba-Kilimi-Madina-Oula transboundary landscape of Guinea and Sierra Leone funded by WABiLED

JOB DESCRIPTION **Community Ecoguard (10 posts)**

Tacugama Chimpanzee Sanctuary (TCS) was founded in 1995 by Bala Amarasekaran together with the Government of Sierra Leone (GoSL). Everything TCS does starts with the chimps and transitions into wildlife conservation, research, climate change mitigation, advocacy, law enforcement, youth and women empowerment, community outreach, eco-tourism, environmental education and livelihood support initiatives.

Previous studies have recognized the Outamba-Kilimi-Madina-Oula (OKMO) transboundary landscape in Guinea and Sierra Leone as a hotspot for endangered species such as the western chimpanzee (CR), African forest elephant (CR), hooded vulture (CR), giant ground pangolin (EN) and flora species such as *Nymphoides guineensis* (EN) and the endemic to Guinea *Dilophotriche occidentalis* (VU).

The present 1.5-year project supports ongoing conservation initiatives (EU-Funded OKKPS PAPFor project) that were born out of the government will in both countries. WCF and TCS collaborate together on this project, with WCF as main applicant and TCS as co-applicant. In addition to support the creation process of the Penselli-Soyah-Sabouyah National Park in Guinea, this project aims to enhance habitat regeneration, conservation, and biodiversity in the Outamba-Kilimi-Madina-Oula trans boundary landscape of Guinea and Sierra Leone.

In order to develop and coordinate the operational management of the forest landscape complex of OKMO, the project is recruiting a Project Coordinator in Sierra Leone, under funding obtained from the WABiLED, and the mandate given by Tacugama Chimpanzee Sanctuary (TCS) and the Government of Sierra Leone.

OBJECTIVE

Ecoguards will carry out monitoring, sensitisation and communication for the responsibilities listed below.

Activities will mostly be within the OKMO landscape in which the biomonitoring will work mainly in (Outamba or Kilimi) and most activities will enable the ecoguard to be based overnight in their community or camp in the forest.



MAIN RESPONSIBILITIES

Sensitisation and Communication

- Raise awareness in communities 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 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, ecoguards are not permitted to be involved in seizure or confiscation of objects or arrest of persons.

Forest Regeneration

- Work closely with communities and other team members to implement the Natural Ecological Regeneration (NER) approach to ensure forest landscape restoration;

The ecoguards report directly to the Biomonitoring and Environment Field Officer.

OTHERS

- Have a good knowledge of the goals and missions of the WCF and TCS;
- Be aware of the general objectives and activities as well as the ones specific to the job position;
- Be aware of the activities of other programs of the project, support them and respect the rules and procedures;
- Help with the general understanding related to the social and political context;
- Translate documents and interpret conversations if necessary.



RULES TO RESPECT

Confidentiality is an absolute rule for this position, it is strictly forbidden to divulge information and any breach of this rule will be considered as a serious fault and sanctioned in accordance with the provisions of the bylaws;

She/he must report to her/his supervisor any significant difficulty that an employee may encounter or in implementing an activity;

She/he must treat all employees equally, without favouritism or privileges granted for any reason;

Respect the rules and customs of local populations (politeness and good manners).

EXPERIENCES AND SKILLS

Qualification – Ability to read and write, as well as use a smartphone, and knowledgeable about the wildlife and flora of the area with the ability to identify signs in the forest;

Previous experience in wildlife data collection and fire management is welcome;

PROFILE / DESIRED SKILLS

Have strong listening and communication skills;

Have good human relation skills and team spirit;

Have excellent skills for synthesis, and for written and oral expression;

Be able to guarantee the confidentiality and discretion and be able to represent the NGO at the local level;

Have sensitivity for environmental issues and specifically for the management of natural resources involving local communities;

Have a sincere motivation to be involved in biodiversity conservation and in the protection of natural resources;

Have the will and openness to work in an international and multi-cultural field;

Be resistant to stress (management of conflicts, management of unforeseen events, etc.) and be flexible around work hours;

Be organized, autonomous and rigorous in the work.

Languages - English (advanced oral, reading and comprehension skills).

In all her/his activities, she/he must be proactive, meaning that she/he must suggest improvements and adaptations. Her/his supervisor can ask for additional tasks if necessary.

This job description covers the main responsibilities inherent to this position. However, it may be required to perform other tasks than those listed above, as well as to show a great flexibility in the management of the function without being considered as a contract modification.

HOW TO APPLY

To apply, please email your CV and cover letter to conservation@tacugama.com in copy to aram@tacugama.com by the 30th October 2022.

Please mention the position name in the subject line of the email. In case you do not hear from us within



two weeks after the closing date, this means that your application was unsuccessful. We thank you for your interest in working for TCS.

This position is for 16 months with the latest start date of 1st December 2022, only candidates based in Sierra Leone, preferably from Karene District, will be considered.