



WILD CHIMPANZEE FOUNDATION

Job Vacancy

Environmental Communications Officer

Structure of employment: Wild Chimpanzee Foundation (WCF)

Date of publication: 15th December 2016

Background:

The Wild Chimpanzee Foundation (WCF) is an international NGO established in several countries such as Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea and Liberia. WCF has been in operation since 2000 for the conservation of chimpanzees and other biodiversity in West Africa. The WCF has worked on projects in Liberia since 2008 and opened a country representation in 2013. WCF conducts conservation programs that include biomonitoring, law enforcement, environmental education, research, land-use planning, alternative livelihood schemes, ecotourism and capacity building, in and around chimpanzee habitats. Emphasis of current projects is on supporting the Forestry Development Authority of Liberia to create protected areas that harbor viable wild chimpanzee populations through evidence-based approaches and community engagement; developing transboundary collaboration along the border with Côte d'Ivoire; and building capacity for law enforcement and monitoring.

Job Description:

We are seeking a full-time Environmental Communications Officer to support the WCF activities in southeastern Liberia; working with the Country Director, Field Coordinator, Biomonitoring and Law Enforcement Program Officer and WCF team. The Environmental Communications Officer will be responsible to develop awareness and outreach programs for local communities living in and around protected and proposed protected areas; monitor and supervise outreach activities; liaise with governmental and non-governmental partners; build capacity of governmental and non-governmental partners; and support the WCF and partners to support the FDA to create and manage protected areas with the local communities. Current projects include: Creation of the Grebo-Krahn National Park, in the heart of the Tai-Grebo-Sapo Forest Complex, the largest west African remaining forest block; Creation of potentially Liberia's largest protected area in within the Krahn-Bassa National Forest; Creation of forest corridors in the Tai-Grebo-Sapo Forest Complex.

Responsibilities:

- Supervise and manage your assigned teams at the Zwedru office in coordination with the Field Coordinator.
- Program missions for assigned program activities including: community consultations, aquaculture, awareness and sensitization, socio-economic survey, in collaboration with the Field Coordinator and Country Director.

- Manage and monitor the allocated program budgets and ensure funds are spent correctly and accounted for following WCF procedures alongside the Field Coordinator, Admin and Finance Officer and Assistant.
- Develop new awareness raising strategies regarding wildlife conservation and bushmeat.
- Identify new opportunities for expanding WCF's awareness raising program.
- Develop an environmental education training manual for government partners.
- Manage and maintain the photograph and awareness database relating to WCF field missions in Liberia alongside the Field Coordinator, Admin and Finance Assistant.
- Support proposal writing and report writing for the WCF West-African Office.
- Maintain close relations with the regional FDA office and ensure their participation in all WCF activities. Including regular meetings with Chief Park Wardens and Regional Forester in order to ensure they are up to date with the results of all WCF projects in the region.
- Develop and manage strategies (alongside Country Director) to create the Grebo-Krahn National Park (community meetings, gazettelement package, national level meeting, lobbying) and the Krahn-Bassa Conservation Area.
- Maintain and develop relationships with local/international NGOs and government officials in the field to ensure there is no conflict with WCF projects, ensure all partners are well informed on WCF activities and maintain collaborations.
- Prepare reports on program activities.

Qualifications / Experience:

- Minimum of 5 years experience in Conservation or Sustainable Management/Development and/or Project management (preferably in an NGO)
- University degree or Diploma in Conservation or a related subject
- Good computer skills with excellent knowledge of Excel
- Fluency in English (oral and written)

Deadline for submission: 15th January 2017

Applications (CV and Cover letter with two references) should be sent electronically to dervla.dowd@gmail.com