



## Internship

### Seagrass Ecosystems Conservation and Restoration

Wetlands International is a global not-for-profit organization dedicated to the conservation and restoration of wetlands for people and nature. Our work on coastal ecosystems—such as mangroves, tidal flats, saltmarshes, coral reefs, and seagrasses—combines science, local knowledge, and practical experience. We develop guidance and tools to support restoration efforts and strengthen the resilience of these ecosystems and the communities that depend on them. Our approach is grounded in collaboration, evidence, and practice.

Through the IKI-funded Climate Resilient East Atlantic Flyway (CREAF) project, we are working with partners across Africa and Europe to improve the resilience of key wetland sites, safeguard migratory bird populations, and support communities along the East Atlantic Flyway. One of the project's goals is to advance knowledge and guidance on coastal ecosystem restoration, including seagrass habitats, particularly in West Africa.

We are seeking an intern to support this work through research and knowledge development focused on seagrass ecosystems.

#### Overall purpose of the internship

The Intern supports the team in developing resources to effectively guide and influence the conservation and restoration of coastal wetlands, including seagrasses as part of an interconnected mosaic of different ecosystem types, in the priority regions. By mapping out the environment of different organizations—understanding who is doing what, where, and how—the intern will highlight areas of interest, current trends, and gaps in knowledge. This analysis will inform the design and content of guidance materials currently in development. The intern will conduct an analysis of available literature, condensing key findings and, in collaboration with the team, produce a comprehensive report. A critical focus will be on the applicability of best practices in the West African context, the focal region of this initiative.

#### Responsibilities and tasks

- Map out organizations, universities, and ongoing initiatives with a focus on seagrass conservation and restoration globally. Identify their main objectives, approaches, strategic partnerships, and alliances related to seagrasses.
- Conduct a comprehensive review of available literature, reports, guidelines, manuals, apps, and other resources on seagrass conservation, management, and restoration.
- Identify best practices and condense key information on conservation and restoration approaches, including causes of success and failure.
- Highlight aspects of habitat connectivity involving mangroves, saltmarshes, tidal flats, coral reefs, and other ecosystems.
- Highlight best practices and approaches that are applicable to the West African context.
- Deliver a final report summarizing findings, including:
  - Overview of the seagrass conservation and restoration landscape

- Best practices and innovations
- Relevance to and potential application in West Africa
- Recommendations to inform guidance module development, including knowledge gaps

## Working relations

**INSIDE Wetlands International:** Senior Technical Officers, Project Manager, Head of Stream Deltas and Coasts.

**OUTSIDE Wetlands International:** Associate Experts, University professionals, partner organizations, other NGOs staff.

**Reporting to:** Senior Technical Officer/ As appropriate

**Full-time:** 36 hours

**Location:** The Netherlands/Remote

**Grade/Salary:** Intern

## Profile

The ideal Intern is a science-oriented individual with a specific interest in coastal wetland ecosystems conservation, management, and restoration. They will be proactive, curious, and collaborative, capable of working independently while engaging with the team under guidance. The ideal candidate is passionate about supporting implementation actors in priority regions by helping develop clear, practical resources. They must be well-organized, able to navigate scientific content, and flexible enough to understand and adapt to practical needs on the ground.

## Education, experience, and competencies

- Relevant degree in marine science, ecology, biology, ecosystem management, or similar.
- Experience in analyzing scientific and non-scientific literature and summarizing key aspects.
- Experience in writing reports and producing clear outputs based on complex sources.
- Must have familiarity with coastal habitat conservation concepts, knowledge of seagrass ecosystems is a strong asset.
- Must be a fluent English speaker; French is highly desirable.

## How to apply

To apply for this vacancy, please send us a resume and an application letter indicating your motivation to – Jozefa van der Veen, HR Officer. Email – [hr@wetlands.org](mailto:hr@wetlands.org). Please mark in the subject: “Seagrasses Intern”. Questions about the internship and/or procedure can also be sent to this email address.

**Deadline: we’d like the intern to start as quickly as possible.**

**Early applications are strongly encouraged and will be processed upon receipt.**