

Internship Description

Title:	Strengthening collaboration in the context of the Interfaith Rainforest Initiative
Programme:	Climate Change and Biodiversity
Hours:	37 hours per week
Pay Status:	£8.72 per hour
Line Manager:	Associate Programme Officer

Internship Summary

UN Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre works with scientists and policy makers worldwide to place biodiversity at the heart of environment and development decision-making to enable enlightened choices for people and the planet.

The Climate Change and Biodiversity (CCB) programme focusses on climate change and the links between climate change and biodiversity crises, as well as among potential responses/solutions to them. We see forest protection and restoration as a key nature-based solution to climate change, as well as being essential for biodiversity conservation.

Our work on behalf of the Interfaith Rainforest Initiative (IRI) contributes to a novel avenue to achieving these ends. IRI aims to build a worldwide movement for the protection of tropical forests by engaging religious leaders and faith communities both at the global level and within five countries: Brazil, Colombia, Democratic Republic of Congo, Indonesia and Peru. IRI is mobilising faith-based action to protect forests and the rights of indigenous peoples, both by bringing people of different faiths together towards this common goal, and by providing the science, information and tools that religious leaders need for this work.

Alongside IRI, UNEP-WCMC is engaged in multiple other areas of research and policy around forest, indigenous peoples and behavioural change. This internship will identify common areas of interest between these and the Interfaith Rainforest Initiative, with the aim of understanding opportunities for mutual learning and potential collaboration. Examples may include shared communication opportunities, or scope to draw on emerging findings and data e.g. on forest ecosystem services, indigenous territories or relevant policies in focal countries.

Learning Objectives

- Understand the strategy, structure, operating procedures, systems, culture and values of a typical conservation organisation.
- Learn about the wide variety of work areas of the Centre
- Understand the roles of colleagues within the CCB programme as well as the internship role to ensure effective team working.
- Develop self-awareness to learn how to recognise when more technical knowledge is required, as well as how to gain it and check its reliability.
- Gain experience of working in a project-led environment and strengthen time management skills in order to ensure tasks are delivered to deadlines.
- Gain experience on mapping project outcomes and finding synergies

Duties and Responsibilities

- Define project variables that are of interest for the Interfaith Rainforest Initiative
- Create a database of projects that could potentially interact with the Interfaith rainforest initiative and record the variables
- In consultation with teams across the Centre, define a methodology for identifying and summarising ways that the Interfaith Rainforest Initiative can contribute to and gain from other areas of ongoing and expected work'
- Write a summary report and present conclusions (likely online)

Requirements and Qualification

We would expect the intern to be an organized and competent individual, capable of independent research and drafting reports and summaries based on that research. We would expect the individual appointed to be outgoing and willing to learn from colleagues.

- A Bachelor's degree (or working towards)
- Balance of quantitative and qualitative analysis skills
- Pro-active
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team