



Protecting a unique
environment in the
Indian Ocean

Healthy Islands, Healthy Reefs Programme Manager

Location: Work from home

Hours: 0.5FTE

Salary: £15,625 per annum

Benefits: Pension, 25 days annual leave pro rata

Contract: October 2021 – June 2023

The Chagos Conservation Trust's large-scale island rewilding programme, Healthy Islands, Healthy Reefs, is based on sound science highlighting the significant linkages between the health of the islands of the Chagos Archipelago and their surrounding coral reefs.

It aims to rewild the 30 ecologically degraded islands of the outer atolls of the Chagos Archipelago, returning them to refuges for native species and supporting coral reefs.

The seabirds and corals of the Chagos Archipelago are inextricably linked. Seabirds provide nutrients that help the corals survive but, on some islands, because of the presence of invasive rats that eat seabird eggs and chicks, seabirds have disappeared, breaking this important link.

We are now in a position to recruit a programme manager to lead on the delivery of a Darwin Plus funded "Filling knowledge gaps to enable rewilding of the Chagos Archipelago" project, which is a vital component of the Healthy Islands, Healthy Reefs programme.

The aim of this project is to collect data to fill knowledge gaps and inform a robust and effective Rewilding Operational Plan to eradicate ship rats *Rattus rattus*, restore native habitat and ultimately boost biodiversity across the archipelago.

This role, reporting to the CCT Director, will be responsible for expedition planning, logistics and management, reporting and strategy development and ultimately, managing and updating the Rewilding Operational Plan.

Job description: Healthy Islands, Healthy Reefs Programme Manager

1. The Programme Manager is accountable to CCT for the delivery of the Darwin Plus *Filling knowledge gaps to enable rewilding of the Chagos Archipelago* project for the Healthy Islands, Healthy Reefs programme
2. The Programme Manager is responsible for the delivery of all aspects of the Darwin Plus project. Direct responsibilities include Political, Logistics, Personnel, Risk Management, Reporting and, managing the Rewilding Operational Plan.
 - Political: Liaison with BIOT Administration about the 2022 expedition including expedition application, permit requirements, legal contractual requirements and risk assessment.
 - Logistics: Lead on expedition logistics and management and scope the market to assess suppliers of equipment/vessels for the expedition



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- Personnel: Assist the CCT Director in recruitment and training of the Chagossian research assistant
- Reporting: Complete project reporting
- Outputs: Responsible for outputs as listed in project logframe
- Operational Plan: Update the Rewilding Operational Plan

3. Deliverables:

- Co-ordinate all permits and permissions for expedition team to access BIOT for research expedition in 2022
- Chagos Archipelago invasive and native species database updated
- Integrate terrestrial biodiversity survey data into the Rewilding Operational Plan
- Imbed Invasive predator eradication technical strategy and biosecurity measures into Rewilding Operational Plan
- All Darwin Plus reporting requirements completed
- Monthly meetings attended and project progress reported on

Person Specification for Healthy Islands, Healthy Reefs Programme Manager

Qualifications
1. BSc. or equivalent experience in conservation or related discipline
Knowledge
1. Knowledge of rewilding principles 2. Knowledge of the threats, habitats, and species in the Chagos Archipelago 3. Knowledge of the challenges of working in remote UK Overseas territories 4. Knowledge of invasive species control and management
Experience
1. Project management and delivery 2. Working with UK Overseas Territories governments and/or administrations 3. Logistical management of expeditions to remote areas 4. Leading expedition to remote, tropical regions 5. Producing operational plans and technical strategies
Skills
1. Project and self-management skills, including time management and prioritisation 2. Report writing and operational planning 3. Liaison and people management
Attributes
1. Passionate about the natural environment 2. Enthusiastic and engaging with an ability to connect with people 3. Highly motivated and professional, able to demonstrate high standards

Please contact helen.pitman@chagos-trust.org with any questions.

Closing date: 21st July 2021

Interview date: 28th July 2021