



JOB DESCRIPTION

Position:	Watershed Officer x 3
Term:	3 years with possibility of extension
Office:	Fiji Country Program
Division:	Melanesia Regional Program
Reports to:	Landscape and Watershed Manager

Background

The Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) is an international non-government organisation committed to working with communities, government and other partners to safeguard Fiji's biodiversity and natural resources through integrated land- and seascape management underpinned by applied research. WCS has been working in the country for over twenty years.

Objectives

The Watershed Officer (hereafter the "Officer") positions are responsible for supporting the implementation of WCS-Fiji's landscape and integrated watershed activities, predominately the implementation of the Fiji component of the Watershed Interventions for Systems Health Plus (WISH+) project and the Climate Adaptation and Protected Areas (CAPA) initiative. WISH+ is a Kiwa funded initiative to support watershed management adjacent to the Vatu-i-Ra Seascape (Bua and Lomaiviti Provinces) to achieve co-benefits for biodiversity, climate and human well-being. The CAPA initiative will design and implement nature-based solutions to strengthen climate resilience and conservation of biodiversity in Ra, Tailevu and Bua provinces. Specific activities that will be carried out through these projects include:

- Develop and strengthen integrated water and sanitation safety plans
- Strengthen governance capacity to coordinate and implement district and island ecosystem-based management plans
- Safeguard biodiverse forests through nature-based solutions, including area-based conservation measures and rehabilitating degraded watersheds
- Build the capacity of local communities to implement nature-based solutions to enhance resilience and biodiversity conservation in watersheds
- Improve agriculture practices to increase soil conservation and productivity.
- Install nature-based and WASH (water, sanitation and hygiene) infrastructure to improve water quality and security
- Conduct restoration using nature-based solutions to increase climate resilience and support biodiversity conservation
- Build the case and support the establishment of a national watershed fund
- Support dissemination of knowledge for best practice integrated watershed management and nature-based solutions, including through national consultation groups and coordination committees, conference presentations and engagement in policy dialogue

Duties

Specific duties of the Officer will include, but not limited to:

- Contribute to the implementation of WCS-Fiji landscape and integrated watershed management projects
- Facilitate and contribute to community level participatory planning, including on ecosystem-based management, watershed rehabilitation, area-based conservation, nature-based solutions, sustainable agricultural practices and sanitation
- Assist with planning, arranging and logistics for field-based activities
- Conduct community-level training and technical guidance on integrated management and implementation of nature-based solutions to enhance resilience and biodiversity conservation in watersheds.
- Produce outreach and awareness materials
- Ensure compliance with financial, procurement and record keeping systems
- Represent WCS and provide technical inputs and guidance in relevant forums and national committees
- Liaise with and foster strong working relations with relevant ministries and national coordination committees
- Assist with collection of monitoring data

Qualifications and experience

- Bachelor's degree in natural resource management or in lieu of this extensive hands-on experience working with communities to implement natural resource management projects
- Minimum of 3 years' experience in field-based implementation working directly with local communities
- Demonstrated skills and experience in mentoring, training, facilitating and leading workshops
- Good communication and presentation skills; able to effectively communicate to a broad range of audiences
- Demonstrated strong verbal and written skills in English
- Knowledge of *iTaukei* language required
- Proficient in using office applications (MS Word/Excel/PowerPoint) and web-based platforms

Application process

Please send a letter of interest and curriculum vitae to atukana@wcs.org with the subject line: Application for Watershed Officer. Applications will be accepted until 18 March 2022. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted for interviews.