

## Position Vacancy for Sustainable Fisheries Programme Manager

<b>Position Title:</b>	<b>Sustainable Fisheries Programme Manager</b>
<b>Location:</b>	<b>Toliara, Madagascar</b>
<b>Closing date for applications</b>	<b>July 10th 2013</b>
<b>Contract duration</b>	<b>18 months (project end Jan 2016)</b>
<b>Start date</b>	<b>As soon as possible</b>
<b>Salary range and financial package</b>	<b>£8,400 - £13,200, international flight allowance and medical insurance</b>

### Summary Job Description

Blue Ventures is currently looking for an ambitious, enthusiastic and dynamic fisheries scientist to direct a pioneering fisheries management programme in Madagascar. Blue Ventures is an award-winning marine conservation organisation working with local communities to conserve threatened marine environments. Our conservation programmes work with some of the world's poorest coastal communities to develop conservation initiatives and generate alternative income sources to protect biodiversity and safeguard coastal livelihoods.

For the past decade Blue Ventures has been supporting coastal communities in southern Madagascar to manage inshore fishery resources. This support has included leading an ambitious fisheries management programme throughout the southwest region, which has proven that short term closures of octopus fishing sites nearly double fisher catch and result in significant increases in individual fisher income. In addition to fisheries research, Blue Ventures provides technical support to community-based associations in the implementation of seasonal closures of fishing grounds, a management model which has since been replicated throughout Madagascar and internationally to the Mauritian island of Rodrigues. These fisheries closures have since inspired broader marine conservation efforts by coastal communities throughout Madagascar, now forming the cornerstone of a national network of locally-managed marine areas (LMMAs).



## Next steps

Our work for the next three years will focus on improving various aspects of inshore fisheries management with an emphasis on undertaking timely analysis of fisheries datasets to enable broad sharing of results to all fishery stakeholders to enhance ongoing adaptive management of LMMAs.

This work includes:

- Managing fisheries research and management efforts within the network of LMMAs supported by Blue Ventures
- Working with the newly established fishery management committee (Comité de Gestion de la Pêche de Poulpe, CGP) and relevant fishery stakeholders to improve coordination of fisheries management.
- Supporting the CGP in the development of a fisheries management plan
- Supporting regional partners through the process of applying for full certification of the fishery under the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) eco-certification label
- Working with fisheries buyers to develop sustainable financing opportunities for fishery management, including management contribution schemes
- Developing a new stock assessment model for *Octopus cyanea* in southwest Madagascar
- Developing an appropriate harvest strategy for the fishery based on updated stock assessment modelling

Replicating analyses conducted between 2009-2011 to develop a better understanding of the biological and economic effects of the short term fisheries closures throughout the region

## Responsibilities

Blue Ventures is looking for a proactive, dynamic fisheries scientist to manage this pioneering marine conservation initiative, and to conduct diverse applied research to support the above developments. The position is based out of Blue Ventures' national headquarters in the coastal city of Toliara. The role requires a highly motivated individual with a proven track record in fisheries research and project management.

Specific responsibilities include:

### **Management and capacity building**

- Plan annual and monthly programme work plans, managing day-to-day activities, and ensuring effective coordination of fisheries management activities with Blue Ventures' other conservation and development programmes in Madagascar.
- Manage a team of Malagasy and international staff as well as recruiting new employees as needed to support project development, and supporting consultants and research affiliates.



- Ensure a high degree of technical support and training to project staff
- Manage ongoing collection, compilation and quality control of fisheries databases
- Provide support to partners and colleagues in the development of funding proposals relating to fisheries research
- Maintain communications with project funders, and managing donor administration and reporting tasks as detailed by funding requirements.

#### **Partnership building**

- Consult regularly with CGP stakeholders to provide explanations and receive feedback on the results generated from ongoing analyses of the fisheries data.
- Liaise regularly with scientists at the national marine institute (*Institut Halieutique et des Sciences Marines - IHSM*) to engage local scientists in research carried out by Blue Ventures and the CGP
- Ensure a high degree of technical support and training to other project staff with a particular focus on building capacity of Malagasy staff to undertake future analyses

#### **Scientific analyses**

Analysis of current octopus capture data set in order to:

- Develop and run a stock assessment model for *Octopus cyanea* in southwest Madagascar
- Propose appropriate HCRs and/or TACs for the fishery for consideration by the CGP
- Replicate BACI analyses (previously conducted in 2009-2011 within a single management unit) to develop a better understanding of the economic effectiveness of the short term closures throughout the southwest.
- Assess feasibility of proposed sustainable financing mechanisms for continued management based on fishery productivity
- Produce monthly updates as fishery dashboards to distribute to stakeholders to disseminate real time fisheries data and allow adaptive management of the fishery

#### **Monitoring, reporting and communication**

- Maintain rigorous data management processes, to enable robust ongoing evaluation of effectiveness of fisheries projects
- Support consultants and research affiliates working within Blue Ventures' fishery research projects
- Appraise the effectiveness of current fisheries sampling methodologies and identify areas for streamlining or improving data collection and monitoring
- Identify key research and reporting priorities for the fisheries programme, and lead on development of new ideas for expansion of fisheries research
- Share results with colleagues and providing technical scientific support and training to other staff involved in fishery projects within Blue Ventures
- Produce technical reports, papers and accessible news updates documenting key developments and experiences in fisheries research. Target outputs include all relevant



