



CALL FOR RESEARCH INTERN

Position: Research Intern (unpaid internship)

Location: Remote

Start date: Immediate

Organisation overview:

[Global Diversity Foundation](#) believes that our future depends on our respectful engagement with the vast biological and cultural diversity of Earth. We work to protect this diversity and enhance socio-ecological wellbeing. We carry out collaborative biocultural projects that build resilience, foster innovation and promote learning. Our work contributes to the growing global transition towards justice, respect and dignity for all beings.

About the internship:

We are looking for a highly motivated Research Intern to join our team and contribute to our multi-year High Atlas Cultural Landscapes programme in Morocco, aimed at strengthening traditional practices of conservation and enhancing sustainable land-based economies and wellbeing. To deliver this programme GDF works in partnership with the [Moroccan Biodiversity and Livelihoods Association](#) (MBLA), a nongovernmental organisation based in Marrakesh.

You will be tasked with a) developing an annotated bibliography and b) producing a literature review on livestock management, transhumance and pastoral livelihoods, to support an emerging programme of GDF's work in Morocco. The Research Intern will collaborate with GDF Morocco Programme Director and GDF Technical & Scientific Advisor.

Please note the successful candidate will be required to have their own laptop and to be able to work autonomously from a distance, for a minimum period of 8 weeks.

Responsibilities:

Develop a bibliography and literature review (between 2000-2021) on a selection of the following topics (based on the intern's interests):

Traditional pastoral practices

- The importance (ecologically, culturally, spiritually, economically, climatically, etc) of traditional pastoral practices in the High Atlas mountain agrosilvopastoral ecosystem;
- Traditional pastoral practices and their challenges and opportunities in the current day.

Livestock diversity and changes

- Livestock breeds and varieties in the High Atlas to explore whether there have been changes in varieties used, why so and with what consequences (social, cultural, economic, ecological).

Livestock health

- Issues around livestock health in the Mediterranean region, especially in a changing climate;
- Livestock health: ethnoveterinary practices in the High Atlas and other Mediterranean mountain regions to assess if there are any important illnesses emerging, what do these illnesses cost the pastoral economy, and what allopathic treatments are generally dispensed.

Grazing and climate change

- Feeding livestock in times of climate change;
- Grazing in med highland ecosystems and carbon sequestration to assess if grazing is good or bad for climate change mitigation.

Youth involvement

- Experiences in Morocco or elsewhere in getting young people to be involved in traditional pastoral practices and transhumance.

Commercialisation of pastoral products

- Emergent research on the commercialisation of pastoral products in the Mediterranean, and especially in Morocco to explore what markets are opening up, what constraints, opportunities, threats, strengths in the High Atlas.

Requirements for the role

Essential qualifications and/or skills

- Undergraduate in a relevant subject (Agronomy; Science; Anthropology);
- Strong research skills;
- Strong attention to detail with an ability to write in a clear and concise manner;
- Fluent in English (written and oral skills); knowledge of French is a significant advantage;
- Initiative and self-motivation to work relatively autonomously while maintaining excellent communication and interaction with a team;
- Excellent working knowledge of Microsoft Office package;
- Ability to work in a multi-disciplinary and multi-cultural team;
- Shares GDF vision and values with a commitment to supporting biocultural diversity conservation and management.

What we offer

- A chance to develop and refine your knowledge and research skills;
- An opportunity to create a network of contacts in the biodiversity conservation sector;
- An opportunity to gain a work experience in the international NGO sector;
- This position is not financially remunerated.

How to apply:

Please submit a CV and cover letter to Morocco Programme Director Pommélien da Silva Cosme (pommelien@global-diversity.org). Your cover letter should not exceed two pages and *must clearly demonstrate how your skills, experience and knowledge meet the responsibilities and requirements for the internship* (as set out in the job description).

Deadline for applications: Ongoing

We are accepting applications on an ongoing basis until the position has been filled.