



Research Assistant

Oceanswell is looking to fill a position within the organisation. This position is open to any Sri Lankan looking to support the work of Oceanswell and gain experience.

To apply, email opportunities@oceanswell.org with a copy to LasuniFMSMPhil2022001@student.ocu.ac.lk with the following:

1. Cover letter (maximum 200 words) outlining why you are suited for this job and a short description of your previous related experience(s)
2. CV (maximum 2 pages)
3. Please mention your last name and the job you are applying for in the subject of your email. E.g. deSilva_ResearchAssistant

Application deadline is the **28th October 2022** after which short-listed applicants will be contacted for a Zoom call during 31st October 2022 and start date will be **15th November 2022**.

The Organization

Oceanswell is Sri Lanka's first marine conservation research and education non-profit. Oceanswell conducts much-needed marine conservation research around Sri Lanka, provides opportunities for students to experience marine research first-hand, educates future ocean heroes with knowledge about the oceans using traditional and social media and encourages and provides opportunities for ocean engagement.

Position Description

A full-time research assistant position (2) is available for a research project titled 'Social dimensions of high seas fishing: Knowledge and perceptions among Sri Lankan fishers on management measures imposed on shark fishing and implementation of vessel monitoring systems' funded by the Bertarelli Foundation. This project is looking to recruit researchers interested in socio-economic studies of fisheries, and wish to gain experience in social science research tools. Candidates with experience and/or knowledge of multi-day fisheries communities and shark fisheries are highly desirable. Any prior experience in the collection of social science data would also be useful.

Applications are invited from Sri Lankan graduates.

Duration

The position is available for a 3-4 month time period starting from November 2022 (20 days/month) with the potential for extension. Part-time arrangements are possible, pending discussion.

Required

- B.Sc (Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences/ Agriculture) from a recognized university
- Ability to use Microsoft Excel and Word
- Fluency and ability to work in English and Sinhalese
- Ability to work as part of a team
- Ability to integrate with people of different backgrounds and cultures
- Good communication skills
- Comfortable working away from the home location for extended periods

Preferred qualifications but not required

- Previous experience with using social science research tools (e.g. questionnaires)
- Knowledge of Sri Lankan offshore and shark fisheries

Other details

The project work will consist of collecting, transcribing and entering/keeping records of the data collected. The main methods of data collection would be questionnaire surveys, interviews and focus group discussions in locations such as fish markets, landing sites and community sites. Fieldwork will be in the Western Province and Eastern provinces of Sri Lanka. The position will require extended periods away from home (typically 3-4 months) during which time you will share accommodation with the wider team.

All expenses and costs will be provided throughout the project; this includes travel, food, accommodation and materials required by the researcher. Further, a stipend will be provided for the working days.

