

JOB DESCRIPTION

Position: Research Intern

Reports to: REDD+ Research and Impact Advisor

Location: Flexible (Either Phnom Penh or Mondulkiri Province)

Country Program/Sector: GCP Asia – Mekong region/WCS Cambodia Program

Position Type: Intern (full 3 months with possible extension)

Expected travel: Periodic travel to Mondulkiri province

Organization Background:

The Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) is a US non-profit, tax-exempt, private organization established in 1895 that saves wildlife and wild places by understanding critical issues, crafting science-based solutions, and taking conservation actions that benefit nature and humanity. With more than a century of experience, long-term commitments in dozens of landscapes, presence in more than 60 nations, and experience helping to establish over 150 protected areas across the globe, WCS has amassed the biological knowledge, cultural understanding and partnerships to ensure that vibrant, wild places and wildlife thrive alongside local communities. Working with local communities and organizations, that knowledge is applied to address species, habitat and ecosystem management issues critical to improving the quality of life of poor rural people whose livelihoods depend on the direct utilization of natural resources.

Program Overview:

Since 2003, WCS has provided technical and financial assistance to the management of Keo Seima Wildlife Sanctuary (KSWS) in the Eastern Plains Landscape. The Keo Seima REDD+ Project is Cambodia's flagship REDD+ project. It was the first large REDD+ project developed in Cambodia, the first to receive a multi- million-dollar carbon sale, and it is the longest running. In the ten years since it started, the project has demonstrated that emissions reductions can be achieved while maintaining a gold rating for benefiting local communities.

WCS is now working towards a greater role in governance and management for Indigenous peoples in the landscape. The KSWS REDD+ strategy places research at the center of all activities being implemented at the site, to support continuous learning in collaboration with community, government, and civil society partners. To achieve this, the Research & Impact team has built a portfolio of research projects and activities in partnership with Indigenous communities, civil society, and with national and international universities.

Job Summary:

We are seeking two highly motivated and enthusiastic Research Interns to join our dynamic research and impact team. These roles are ideal for individuals looking to gain practical experience in various stages of the research lifecycle, from fieldwork coordination and data management to research dissemination and event organization. The interns will play a crucial role in supporting our team to ensure the smooth execution of research activities and the effective communication of our findings.

Major Responsibilities:

- Facilitate and coordinate research fieldwork activities, including logistics, scheduling, and communication with local stakeholders.
- Clean and enter research data accurately and efficiently using relevant software.
- Assist in translating research materials (e.g., questionnaires, interview transcripts, reports) between English and Khmer.
- Support the organization and coordination of workshops, seminars, and other research-related events.
- Conduct literature reviews and synthesize information on assigned topics.
- Perform other administrative and research-related tasks as needed.

Proposed Timeline and Key Responsibilities:

September:

- Translating and transcribing 2025 Social Impact Assessment (SIA) data
- Translating necessary documents and research instruments for KSWS stakeholders mapping
- Participating in KSWS stakeholders mapping fieldworks
- Cleaning and entering data

October:

- Translating relevant documents to prepare for Systems Thinking Workshop
- Participating in facilitators training and facilitating Systems Thinking Workshop
- Cleaning and entering data

November:

- Assisting in drafting and translating KSWS Stakeholders Engagement Strategy
- Facilitating the organization of validation and dissemination workshop

Minimum Requirements:

- Currently enrolled in or a recent graduate of a Bachelor's degree program in a relevant field such as Social Sciences, Environment, Agriculture, Development Studies, Public Policy, or a related discipline.
- Demonstrated interest in research and a basic understanding of research methodologies.
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office Suite (Word, Excel, PowerPoint) is essential.
- Excellent organizational and time management skills with the ability to prioritize tasks and meet deadlines.
- Good communication skills, both written and verbal, in Khmer and English. Knowledge of Bunong language is a plus.
- Ability to work independently as well as collaboratively in a team environment.
- Attention to detail and a commitment to producing high-quality work.