

Research Assistant - Central Chimpanzee, sample and behavioral data collection

Position description:

We have a research assistant position available in Loango National Park, Gabon. We are looking for a person to work on chimpanzee behavioral data and sample collection.

The assistant tasks will include: behavioral data collection of the chimpanzees which requires long hours in the forest and a great deal of patience. Other tasks include data entry, as well as data collection related to phenology, vegetation surveys and camera traps and fecal, tissue and urine sample collection for endocrinological, genetic and pathogenic analyses.

Loango National Park is located on the coast of Gabon and consists of several ecosystems including coastal forest and swamps.

The living conditions at this project are basic. Our camp has only basic amenities (no running water, only minimal solar power for electricity). The typical day consists of approximately 10 hours walking in the forest, often through swamps, average 10 km per day, rain or shine. The work is physically demanding.

Requirements:

You will be required to have basic health insurance that also covers emergency repatriation and liability. You also must have vaccinations for measles, yellow fever, hepatitis A and B, polio, and meningitis and a negative TB test.

The applicant must have at least a BSc in biology, zoology, veterinary medicine, anthropology or a related discipline. Previous field experience with primates or other animals will be viewed as a great asset.

The applicant should demonstrate an ability to handle the living conditions at the site. Experience driving a quad bike is an asset.

A minimum knowledge of French is required.

Salary/funding:

150 Euros per month plus 50 Euros for health insurance

One round trip airfare to Gabon and transportation to study site will be provided. Accommodation and basic equipment is provided. Basic food is also provided, but if you want anything special you need to purchase it yourself.

Term of appointment:

One Year - starting in September 2021

Application deadline:

June 30th, 2021

Contact:

Dr. Tobias Deschner
Max Planck Institute for evolutionary Anthropology, Former Department of Primatology
<https://www.eva.mpg.de/primat/research-groups/chimpanzees/field-sites/loango-chimpanzee-project/>
Email: deschner@eva.mpg.de

