Vacancy: Reforestation Coordinator

Overview

Sint Eustatius National Parks Foundation (STENAPA) is seeking a practical and hands-on Reforestation Coordinator to lead the continuation of our reforestation efforts on the island. After hurricane Irma in September 2017, hundreds of trees were uprooted in and around Oranjestad and there was significant damage to forests elsewhere on the island. Due to the magnitude of the damage, Statia's reforestation became one of STENAPA's priorities. Trees prevent erosion, support soil moisture retention, and are vital for natural functioning ecosystems.

The Reforestation Coordinator manages the day-to-day running of the project, including the greenhouses, water and irrigation systems, plant cultivation, site preparation and planting, and leads the project team. The position reports to the Terrestrial Parks Manager and the Director and is part of the National Parks Foundation team.

Key Responsibilities

- Oversee the work of the project, including plant cultivation, site preparation, planting, and fencing.
- Lead, schedule, and train the project team (rangers, volunteers, and interns) and solve technical issues in the field.
- Build, maintain, and repair project infrastructure such as greenhouses, shade houses, fencing, and storage.
- Install, maintain, and repair water and irrigation systems, including pumps, piping, tanks, and cisterns.
- Manage budget, timelines, procurement, and quality standards.
- Manage project resources, including monitoring and reporting.
- Coordinate with stakeholders, suppliers, and the community.
- Support other STENAPA activities in the national parks as required.

Personal Specification and Qualifications

- Proven practical experience in plumbing, irrigation, or water systems.
- Practical experience in basic building and construction work (e.g., carpentry, fencing, small structures).

- Experience in managing a small team (2-4 people) and planning work.
- Experience in project management, ideally in conservation, agriculture, landscaping, or a related field.
- Skills in budgeting, procurement, and basic reporting.
- Experience with and willingness to undertake demanding fieldwork in challenging conditions (e.g., heat, humidity, rough terrain).
- Physically fit and able to work outdoors in a variety of weather conditions.
- Proficient in English and in using Microsoft Office.
- Strong communication and problem-solving skills.
- Valid driver's license.

Desirable Qualifications

- A degree or diploma in forestry, environmental management, agriculture, horticulture, or a related field. Education is a plus, but relevant practical experience is equally valued.
- Experience with plant propagation or nursery work.
- Experience in monitoring of terrestrial species and habitats.
- Familiarity with Caribbean flora and the natural environment.
- Experience with GIS applications.

Additional Information

- Full-time position (36 hours/week).
- 12-month fixed-term contract, from 1 February 2027 to 31 January 2028.
- Health insurance included.
- The expected start date for this position is February 1, 2027.

Due to immigration regulations, preference will be given to applicants holding a Dutch or US passport. We also warmly encourage applicants from St. Eustatius and the wider Caribbean region to apply, as local and regional knowledge is highly valued.

Sint Eustatius is a small (10 sq. miles, 26 sq km. pop 3,250) island in the Eastern Caribbean. STENAPA is responsible for the management of the National Parks Boven/Quill, the Marine Park and the Botanical Garden. The organization also works on conservation of flora and fauna outside of the National Parks. www.statiapark.org

Send your CV and motivation letter, addressed to Dr. Erik Boman, Director of STENAPA, to info@statiapark.org. Closing date 31 December 2026. For questions about this position, please contact the Terrestrial Parks Manager at jethro.vanthul@statiapark.org.

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