

## SHARK ECOLOGY VOLUNTEERING

**Application deadline:** Immediately

**Expected start date:** Immediately

**Duration:** Initially for a period of 3 months with the possibility of extending the placement for an additional time upon agreement.

### Introduction

The Charles Darwin Foundation (CDF) is looking for people with experience in marine sciences and/or socio-economic surveys to volunteer on a research project on the islands of Santa Cruz and San Cristóbal, in Galapagos, Ecuador. The successful candidates will be working on the Shark Project, which aims to conduct applied research that results in specific management actions toward shark conservation. Specifically, the successful candidates will support a socio-economic project that aims to estimate the value of sharks as a tourism resource in the Galapagos and the contribution of shark-diving tourism to the local economy and conservation efforts.

### Key Responsibilities

1. Conduct face-to-face interviews with tourists using structured questionnaires to collect socio-economic data.
2. Digitalize survey data and update the project's database.
3. Conduct desktop online searches to gather general tourism industry statistics.
4. Maintain and update the project bibliography.
5. Assist in the design, preparation, and delivery of outreach and education events with the local community and tourism industry.
6. Support any other CDF activities when requested by the project coordinator.

### Required profile

- BSc (Hons) in biology, economics, sociology, geography, or a related field.
- Highly proficient in SPANISH and ENGLISH. Other languages are an advantage.
- Previous experience in conducting questionnaire interviews and surveys is desirable.
- Excellent social and interpersonal skills.
- Knowledge of Microsoft Office, in particular MS Excel.
- Previous experience entering data and curating datasets.
- Pro-active, able to integrate into a multi-disciplinary team in an isolated environment, and willing to work long days and weekends.
- Self-driven and able to work independently.

## Conditions

The Shark Project Volunteer reports directly to the area coordinator and the shark project scientist. The successful candidates will be based either on the islands of Santa Cruz or on San Cristobal, in the Galapagos Islands, Ecuador. A volunteer assignment with CDF does not imply a continuing relationship with the volunteer beyond the expected duration of the assignment.

The volunteer is expected to work a minimum of 40 hours per week, from 7:45 - 12:15 and 14:00 – 17:15. Due to the nature of the project activities (e.g. windows of opportunity to conduct surveys) this schedule may change. Vacation and/or additional time away may be requested in advance by the volunteer but will be subject to the approval of the project coordinator.

The volunteer is responsible for their own travel costs to and from the Galapagos Islands, room, and lodging costs during their stay. Accommodation in the CDF campus dorms can be arranged if available. The volunteer must provide their own accident and life insurance coverage for travel to and from the Galapagos and for the duration of their assignment in the Islands.

The CDF will negotiate the entry permits to Ecuador but will require the cooperation of the volunteer in their country of residence for coordination with the appropriate Ecuadorian embassy that grants the required visa. CDF will not process a visa in excess of the expected duration of the assignment.

## How to Apply

For those interested in this position, please send your application form and attachments by e-mail ([vol@fcdarwin.org.ec](mailto:vol@fcdarwin.org.ec)).

Application forms are available on our website: [www.darwinfoundation.org](http://www.darwinfoundation.org). If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact: [vol@fcdarwin.org.ec](mailto:vol@fcdarwin.org.ec)

## **SUBJECT**

**SHARKS23\_VOL\_FULLNAME**

## **ATTACH**

- CV.
- Cover letter.
- Two professional reference letters that include the names and contact details of referees.
- Name and contact details of two referees that can provide a personal reference
- Social Insurance number