



HUMAN RESOURCES ADMINISTRATION – VOL/SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Announcement

Volunteer Opportunity for the Area: Vegetation Mapping

(Terrestrial Invasive Species and Restoration of the *Scalesia* forests Program)

Application deadline: 30 January 2026

Starting date: 23 February 2026

Duration: 3 months (minimum)

Introduction

The Charles Darwin Foundation (CDF) carries out several ecological restoration and terrestrial invasive species projects that require cartographic information. This is intended to provide scientifically integrated information to the authorities responsible for the management, conservation, and restoration of Galapagos ecosystems.

In this context, we are looking for an individual to support the office and field activities of the vegetation mapping project, which aims to map the abundance and distribution of endemic and invasive plant species.

Conditions of the volunteership

The Charles Darwin Foundation (CDF) will provide the equipment and materials necessary for the development of the project, as well as logistical support for field trips to other islands. Technical guidance will also be provided by the CDF scientific team, in accordance with institutional policies and procedures.

The volunteer will be under the supervision of the scientist responsible for the project and will comply with the schedule assigned by CDF.

It is mandatory to comply with the Internal Regulations and the CDF Procedures Manual, and to strictly adhere to all rules and guidelines established by the Galápagos National Park Directorate (GNPD) during field activities.

Requirements

- Experience with Geographic Information Systems (GIS)
- Advanced proficiency in geospatial data digitization
- Experience in cartographic production
- Availability and experience working in the field under difficult conditions, such as reaching remote or hard-to-access sites
- Field orientation and navigation skills using GPS and compass
- Ability to work independently

Responsibilities

- Participate in field trips to obtain in-situ data, georeferencing plant species
- Assist in field trip logistics for drone flights
- Delineation of plant species perimeters (trees and shrubs) on drone orthophotography for the creation of training masks for Artificial Intelligence models
- Collaborate in the evaluation and adaptation of automated classification methodologies for satellite imagery and drone orthophotos to obtain vegetation species maps
- Document work carried out

How to apply?

Applicants are kindly asked to complete the online application form available under the following link: <https://forms.office.com/r/jf7Y7qAJfm>, and attach the required documentation in accordance with the instructions provided therein.

Please note that it is mandatory to comply with the guidelines for completing the application, the established deadlines, and the required formats for the attachments.

Only applications that fully comply with all the established criteria in terms of profile, format, documentation, and content will be considered.

Do you have any specific questions about the project?

If you would like more information about the project or the activities related to the opportunity you are applying for, please send your questions to the following email address so that we can respond accordingly:

✉ paul.leon@fcdarwin.org.ec