Title: Natural Climate Solutions Carbon Finance Intern

Primary location: Singapore and remote-working from home

Duration: 5 months (starting January 2021)

Number of positions: 1

Organisation description: PEOPLE NEED NATURE — Conservation International (CI) works to spotlight and secure the critical benefits that nature provides to humanity. Since our inception in 1987, we’ve helped to protect more than 6 million square kilometres of land and sea across more than 70 countries. Currently with offices in 29 countries and 2,000 partners worldwide, our reach is truly global. Building upon a strong foundation of science, partnership and field demonstration, CI empowers societies to responsibly and sustainably care for nature, our global biodiversity, for the well-being of humanity.

About the project: One of the most important means to scaling up climate action is through investments, but currently only 2% of global climate investment goes to Natural Climate Solutions (NCS). CI engages in a broad range of activities such as designing, advising, developing, and brokering NCS projects to increase funding for nature-based solutions across Southeast Asia.

When high-carbon ecosystems such as primary forests, mangroves, and peatlands are destroyed, they release immense amounts of carbon that are irrecoverable on a human-relevant timescale. Yet incentives to protect these places are often limited. CI and partners have mapped these high-carbon ecosystems to help establish policies and secure sustainable financing to protect these ecosystems, while increasing benefits to the lands’ stewards, in particular indigenous peoples and local communities. Getting buy-in from the people who directly depend on forests is integral to conservation efforts.

About the role: The intern will report to Robert Baigrie, Senior Director of Corporate and Ecosystem Finance & Head of Developed Markets, Asia-Pacific based in Singapore; and provide support in the form of:

- Researching, supporting, and communicating the implementation of “The Business Case for Natural Climate Solutions: Insights and Opportunities for SEA”
- NCS and private sector partnerships in Singapore
- Supporting partnership activities with local partners e.g. BCG, NUS, EDB, MSE, Temasek
- Analysis of ROI of various NCS projects
- Structuring financial models for NCS development
- Proposal writing, presentation development, and communications
Benefits
The intern will be provided with a monthly stipend of SGD $1,000 for 5 workdays per week. This amount will be pro-rated for a shorter work commitment per week.

If the internship requires travel, the intern can expect to receive a modest travel grant. However, all travel will be highly dependent on prevailing COVID-19 restrictions, programmatic needs, and available funding.

Application
To be considered for the internship, please apply to singapore@conservation.org with the subject line “Application: NCS Carbon Finance Internship — [full name]” with the following:

1. Curriculum vitae
2. Cover letter, which should include relevant experience that makes you a suitable candidate
3. Writing sample