ICCP Researcher/Red Listing Co-ordinator

Conservation Science

Job Description

The main aim of the post is to maintain and increase capacity for realisation and impact of RBGE conservation prioritisation (red listing) activities.

- This is achieved through:
- Providing oversight, support and coordination for all RBGE's red listing activities
- Liaison with the IUCN Threatened Species Unit (regarding pre-submission, submission, publication, and taxonomic changes)
- Provision of in-house training (e.g. using SIS, application of categories and criteria, keeping up to date with IUCN changes).

Additionally, the role supports the work of specific projects, namely the World Flora Online and International Conifer Conservation Programme/Global Conservation Consortium for Conifers.

World Flora Online (conifers)

- Expand the conifer TEN and with them maintain the conifer 'backbone' for the WFO
- Monitor publications of new conifer taxa/revisions and update PADME database accordingly

ICCP/GCCC

- Conduct and facilitate conifer red listing assessments in partnership with the Conifer Specialist Group
- Develop species conservation plans and conduct gap analyses for priority conifer species based on red list status and suitability/need for ex-situ conservation
- Analysis of previous rounds of red list assessments for conifers, identifying trends, changes, and barriers/challenges
- Develop and support funding proposals to support conifer conservation
- Contribute to and maintain Threatened Conifers of the World website
- Undertake fieldwork as appropriate to support conifer conservation
- Conifer specimen curation/laying away for RBGE herbarium
- Student teaching/project support

Person Specification

Essential Skills

- Strong analytical skills with the ability to assess conservation status using IUCN red list criteria.
- Excellent organisational and coordination skills to manage multiple red listing assessments and conservation projects.
- High attention to detail, particularly in taxonomic data management and species assessment processes.
- Strong written and verbal communication skills for report writing, scientific publications, and liaising with international partners.
- Ability to deliver in-house training and capacity-building activities.
- Effective problem-solving skills and ability to work independently, as well as collaboratively within teams.
- Fieldwork skills, including plant identification, data collection, and working in challenging environments.
- Ability to work to deadlines while maintaining high standards of accuracy
- Understanding of biodiversity databases and data management (e.g., SIS, PADME).
- Awareness of global plant conservation policies and initiatives.
- Knowledge of ex situ conservation, species action planning, and conservation assessments.
- In-depth understanding of the IUCN red list process, categories, and criteria.
- Strong knowledge of botany, conservation science, and taxonomy, particularly in relation to conifers.

Desirable

- Familiarity with World Flora Online (WFO) and taxonomic backbone maintenance.
- Familiarity with herbarium curation and specimen handling.