



Job Description

Project Lead/ Research Scientist

Applications DUE: 9 Aug 2024 (but applications will be considered until position is filled)

Full-Time Position, Full Benefits (including relocation support and annual home leave)

Location: Onsite at Mauritius (stationed at Odysseo)

Target Start Date: 1 Sept 2024

Term: Initially funded for three years

Reports to: Research Director

Supervises: Technicians (3)

Organization Summary

Established as a nonprofit organization in 2015, SECORE International, Inc. is dedicated to the preservation and restoration of coral reefs through solid scientific research, solution-based technology innovation, and international capacity building. SECORE is a dynamic, entrepreneurial nonprofit that prides itself on successfully dedicating its leading-edge programs to places, projects, and partners including renowned universities, nonprofits, governments, zoos and public aquariums, and other stakeholders, to give coral reefs a future. SECORE's main office is in Miami, FL USA but also engages staff in Germany as well as field teams based in Curacao and Mexico. While our current partnerships are largely focused in the Caribbean region, SECORE expects, over the coming few months, to initiate a new initiative and local field team in Mauritius to further our research and training capacity in a region that so far retains greater coral reef resilience than the Caribbean. We are soliciting statements from interested candidates in applied coral restoration research.

Position Overview

The Project Lead/Research Scientist (PL/RS) will contribute to SECORE's mission by being responsible for developing, coordinating, and managing SECORE's applied scientific research in Mauritius, as well as contributing to research and training activities in other, international project locations. Underwater scientific diving work with SCUBA and work on boats is required. The PL/RS will be a full-time position with SECORE, though co-located and operating through a local aquarium partner, Odysseo, in Mauritius. Research area is expected to focus in applied coral research supporting SECORE's goals to enable upscaling and improved efficiency of coral larval propagation and assisted recruitment. PL/RS will report to SECORE's Research Director, but will also work closely with the technology development and training departments. In addition to implementing coral research, the incumbent will supervise three technicians in the local team and represent SECORE in all local partnerships in the new site, including the host organization, academic collaborations, local resource management interests and other restoration practitioners.



This position will enjoy a flexible work schedule, generous vacation benefits, and some relocation support. However, work schedules are highly irregular, being strongly driven by biological patterns such as coral spawning.

Duties and Responsibilities

1. Under direct supervision of the SECORE Research Director (RD), PL/RS will be responsible for the development, management, and operation of SECORE research activities in Mauritius.
2. PL/RS will supervise and oversee other SECORE staff in the local team. This may include the recruitment and supervision of students, volunteers, and interns to assist with the execution of research activities.
3. PL/RS will maintain good scientific standing in the community, develop research collaborations, and disseminate relevant research results to the scientific and practitioner community. This includes publishing in peer reviewed journals and sharing findings at international conferences, symposiums and webinars.
4. PL/RS will be an active participant in funding acquisition for SECORE research activities. This may include the preparation of grant proposals and reporting on activities funded by grants, as well as general fundraising.
5. PL/RS will be responsible for managing research budgets in conjunction with SECORE RD.
6. PL/RS will participate in and help organize SECORE training and mentoring activities as well as occasional education and outreach activities.
7. PL/RS will maintain communication with SECORE Management Team, providing reports and updates as needed. This includes providing input and facilitating field trials pertaining to new technologies as well as Communications and Development activities.
8. PL/RS will foster and maintain good working relationships with local partners and collaborating institutions in Mauritius. This includes the host organization, academic collaborations, local resource management interests and other restoration practitioners
9. PL/RS will also perform such other duties or responsibilities as may be reasonably requested or required by SECORE RD and ED from time to time.

The above noted job description is not intended to describe, in detail, the multitude of tasks that may be assigned, but rather to give a general sense of the responsibilities and expectations of this position. This description is not meant to be an exhaustive list of job duties. The essential functions of this position may evolve as necessary.



Qualifications:

- PhD in coral ecology, coral restoration, or related field OR Masters degree with extraordinary experience demonstrating capability to lead successful field research including peer-reviewed publication record. Preferred research expertise in coral spawning/larval ecology, coral restoration, and/or coral aquaculture.
- Experienced Scientific SCUBA Diver, including appropriate safety qualifications such as first aid and emergency O2 delivery.
- Demonstrated leadership capacity to ensure successful supervision of technician team and fostering of local partnerships.
- Good organizational and communication skills to enable efficient operation and coordination among dispersed SECORE personnel including remote supervisor, local supervisees and partners, as well as supporting SECORE corporate communications and fundraising.
- Experience conducting successful endeavor such as field research in a multi-cultural setting
- Full capacity in written and spoken English. Preferred: additional capacity in French.

SECORE strongly believes that a staff of diverse backgrounds, beliefs, ethnicities and cultures best prepares us to achieve our research, conservation, and restoration goals. Thus, we encourage applicants from all cultures, ethnicities, religions, ages, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability status, national or regional origins, military, or other status protected by law to apply.

Please email your interest with a single PDF document attached including a cover letter describing your motivation for an international assignment, experience in project management and in international multi-cultural settings, CV, and at least two references to employment@secore.org (Subject: Research Scientist/Team Lead).

This job description is not an implied contract between the employer and employee. The employer reserves the right to make changes at any time and at its discretion during this at-will employment.