

## The Charles Darwin Foundation for the Galapagos Islands is seeking a Director of Education

<b>Role:</b>	Director of Education
<b>Type of work:</b>	Full-time employment
<b>Deadline for application:</b>	September 22 <sup>th</sup> , 2024

### Background

The Charles Darwin Foundation (CDF) is an international non-profit organization founded in Belgium in 1959 with an operational base in the Galapagos Islands, a UNESCO world heritage site located 1,000 kilometers off the coast of Ecuador. All research projects operate from the Charles Darwin Research Station (CDRS) under the mission of CDF *to tackle the greatest threats and challenges to Galapagos through scientific research and conservation action, in order to safeguard one of the world's most important natural treasures*. Education is a key pillar of our strategy, as we believe it is vital for achieving sustainable conservation success locally. Additionally, we recognize the global potential of Galapagos as a source of unique learning opportunities, which remain largely untapped. To strengthen our education strategy, we are seeking a dynamic and experienced Director of Education to lead our educational programs and initiatives and develop a high-quality education platform.

### Objective of the position

The Director of Education will play a key role in setting the vision and tone for our education programming. S/he will be responsible for developing, consolidating and implementing CDF's education and outreach strategy, ensuring alignment with the organization's mission, goals, and strategic plan. The position will also focus on building and strengthening relationships with national and international universities to facilitate the creation and delivery of visiting undergraduate courses and educational programs.

### Reporting

The Director of Education is a key member of CDF's leadership team and reports to the Executive Director. In this role, the Director of Education works closely with other area Directors, particularly in Marketing and Communications, Fundraising, and Science. S/he will also need to coordinate with CDF scientists and interact periodically with the Board of Directors. The Director of Education will lead a dynamic team of five professionals.

### Responsibilities

#### Strategic Vision

- Strengthen, consolidate, and implement a comprehensive education and outreach program tailored to the needs of the Galapagos community, and focused on conservation, sustainability, and environmental awareness.
- Envision, establish, and develop partnerships with international universities, academic institutions and other private stakeholders in order to identify and develop opportunities for collaborative courses, projects and educational exchanges that make use of the CDRS campus.

- Identify new opportunities to grow CDF's educational platform and impact in the area.

#### *Fundraising and Grants*

- Seek funding opportunities to support education and programmatic initiatives.

#### *Management*

- Manage CDF's Education and Community Outreach (ECO)-Program, our education and community outreach team based in Santa Cruz, San Cristobal, and Isabela Island.
- Foster strong relationships with local stakeholders, including NGOs, schools, governmental institutions and community groups. Promote community involvement and ensure programs address local needs and institutional strategy.
- Develop, strengthen and implement systems for monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of educational programs. Regularly assess and report on program outcomes and impact.
- Represent the organization at academic conferences, workshops and other events both nationally and internationally, in order to promote educational initiatives and build strategic alliances.
- Manage funds for approved projects and annual budgets for the department.

#### *Leadership*

- Work with the Executive Director, CDF scientists, the education team, and university partners to develop and deliver thematic materials for courses, workshops, and other training programs relevant to a Galapagos context and that leverage CDFs research expertise. Ensure courses meet high academic standards and address local and global issues.
- Collaborate with different local stakeholders to develop strategies for courses and/or implementation of other training programs.
- Work with the Director for Marketing and Communications to maximize opportunities for strategic partnerships.
- Supervise, coach, support, and direct the education team and their activities to meet strategic annual goals.
- Hire, train, and onboard newly hired education staff.
- Comply with the policies, procedures and regulations of the Institution.
- Carry out other activities that relate to your work area.

#### **Abilities**

- Ability to work in a dynamic environment that presents numerous opportunities, as well as unforeseen events and challenges, and one that is characterized by limited logistical resources and geographic isolation.
- Proven ability to envision and articulate a clear direction, formulate new education and outreach strategies, and inspire others to generate and implement innovative ideas that support the organization's Strategic Plan.
- Willing to travel frequently and at times for extensive periods.
- Fluent in both Spanish and English; excellent writing skills in both languages.
- Proficiency with MS Office.

### Skills

- Strong leadership skills
- Strategic-minded and highly organized
- Outstanding interpersonal communication abilities
- Diplomatic communications and service oriented
- Strong team work ethic
- Initiative and creativity
- Adaptable and able to work under pressure

### Qualifications

- A graduate degree in education, pedagogy, international development, biological/environmental sciences, or a related field.
- Minimum of 8 years of experience in educational program management, preferably in an international or NGO context. Proven track record in attracting, developing and managing educational initiatives.
- Deep understanding of conservation challenges in marine and terrestrial contexts, knowledge of sustainability and environmental issues, particularly in the Galapagos context.
- Strong familiarity with international education systems and practices.
- Broad knowledge and understanding of the principles of fundraising and project management.
- Demonstrated ability to write successful grants for education and outreach programs.
- Experience in building partnerships with academic institutions and stakeholders.

### Employment Conditions

- The Director will be based in Puerto Ayora at the Charles Darwin Research Station, Santa Cruz, Galapagos, Ecuador.
- The Director of Education will strictly observe and comply with the rules and regulations of the Galapagos National Park.
- Salary and benefits will be negotiated according to the qualifications of the candidate.

### Restrictions

Please note that the provincial Galapagos government prohibits domestic pets from being brought into the Galapagos Islands.

### To apply

Interested candidates should submit the following information via e-mail to [pro.seleccion@fcdarwin.org.ec](mailto:pro.seleccion@fcdarwin.org.ec).

- An updated CV.
- A cover letter detailing their relevant experience (2 pages maximum).
- The contact information of three professional references (names, email addresses and contact number).

We kindly ask you to send all the necessary documents in a single PDF file.