



the Jane Goodall Institute

Volunteer position for agronomist in the West Africa Chimpanzee Conservation program run by the Jane Goodall Institute in Senegal



Volunteering in the field with the JGI in Africa is a unique learning opportunity with full training and new academic and cultural experiences, in addition to personal growth and integration in the JGI team. And, more importantly, you will be contributing to the conservation of chimpanzees and to the improvement of living standards for the local population.

About the project

The “*West African Chimpanzee Conservation and Sustainable Local Management of Natural Resources Program*” longterm goal is the **recovery of the West African chimpanzee (*Pan troglodytes verus*) population in Senegal and northern Guinea**, an area in which this subspecies is critically endangered, with a maximum estimate of 500 individuals in the whole of Senegal. Habitat loss and fragmentation and the yearly diminishing food and water resources due to human activities pose a major threat on demography and genetic diversity.

Since 2009, research, conservation, education, agroforestry and ecotourism development activities have been carried out by the team of the Spanish Jane Goodall Institute in the territory of the current Dindéfélo Community Reserve (RNCD) and the forthcoming territory of the Reserve Transfrontalière du Fouta Djallon (RTFD), with an extension of 1120 km². Led by primatologist Liliana Pacheco, research on chimpanzee biology, ethology, ecology and conflicts has been focused on its application to conservation.

As a result, the JGI team technically assisted the creation of the RNCD by the local authorities in 2010 and developed its management plan for 2012-2016.

Currently the JGI team is combining its research work with the assistance to the creation of the RTFD, the ongoing training of the RNCD’s management committee, and



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the implementation of priority long-term programs. **In 2014 Dr. Jane Goodall herself inaugurated the JGI Station Biologique Fouta Djallon**, which aims to become a local, national and international reference point for chimpanzee research and conservation. Please, visit www.janegoodall.es/es/kedougou.html and <http://janegoodallsenegal.wordpress.com> to learn more about the program.

Job Description

We are currently searching for a volunteer for the **agricultural area** of the Agroforestry & Sustainability department. **This person will be responsible for:**

- Coordinating tasks with members of the agroforestry department and participating in projects already in progress at the time of incorporation.
- Providing support in diagnosing agricultural production systems in the Dindefelo Reserve, providing technical support to subsistence farmers in the RNCD and initiatives for the development and implementation of projects to improve agricultural efficiency of farmers in the area, without damaging chimpanzee habitat.
- Providing support to the management of the JGI tree nursery and carrying out moderate physical work.
- Exploring work and research synergies with other organizations.

Term of appointment

A minimum commitment of 6 months is required; volunteers who can commit to longer periods will be preferred. Incorporation as soon as possible.

Qualifications/Experience

- Be physically fit and mentally strong.
- Experience in projects of agricultural cooperation, cooperatives of small farmers, field agronomy or similar is preferred.
- At least basic level of spoken French; higher levels will be preferred. Spanish is also useful. Willingness to learn local language.



- Able to adapt easily to changing tasks/ schedules and to basic living conditions (without electric current, range, running water...) in an isolated setting.
- Able to work independently and as part of an international team with a majority of Spaniards.
- Be adaptable to extreme climate conditions and have no (or little) fear of insects, snakes, etc.
- Be emotionally mature, friendly, energetic, positive and very patient.
- Be proactive.
- Have cultural sensitivity, ability to build and maintain good relationships with the local staff (previous experience working in a foreign environment is preferred)

Salary/costs

The JGI Senegal project depends on the Spanish JGI branch, which is a small, self-financed non-profit organisation managed primarily by volunteers. In the program in Senegal, the JGI provides training, assistance, logistics and necessary technological tools. All the other expenses must be paid for by the volunteer: travel, visa, accommodation, meals ...

Possible specific remuneration depends on the year's grants to the project. Accommodation is provided by local families, who will receive an amount per month by the volunteer for rent and meals (lunch and dinner) according to local prices, which boosts the local economy and promotes integration. The average amount for total expenses is around € 100 per month, including breakfast, drinks, mobile phone credit, etc.

The following documents are required from all volunteers prior to arrival

- Proof of vaccinations
- Medical form
- Signed volunteer contract
- Signed responsibility discharge



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Contact

Roberto Martinez. Station Biologique Fouta Djallon, Dindéfelo, Kedougou. Senegal

Application

If you want to apply, please, send your **CV and a motivation letter** to roberto@janegoodall.es. Please, specify in the mail subject the position you are interested in.

Application deadline

Applications will be reviewed on an **ongoing basis**.

Website

Website: <http://janegoodall.es/es/kedougou.html>

Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K05Na1rWfDc>

