



Internship Description

Title:	Timber Trade Research Intern
Programme:	Species Programme
Hours:	37 hours per week
Pay Status:	£7.83 per hour
Line Manager:	Associate Programme Officer

Internship Summary

UN Environment World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC) works with scientists and policy makers worldwide to place biodiversity at the heart of decision-making to enable enlightened choices for people and the planet.

The Species Programme aims to contribute to global efforts to conserve biodiversity by providing focused support to Multilateral Environment Agreements (MEAs) and national governments. The support provided addresses the overexploitation of biodiversity, particularly in the context of international trade in species of international conservation concern.

The purpose of the internship would be to assist with our work on supporting the European Union's efforts to address illegal timber trade and associated illegal logging. In particular, the intern's tasks will support our efforts to assess the implementation of the European Union Timber Regulation (EUTR) and Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT). This work will help to inform policy action by the European Commission and EU Member States, to facilitate and standardise the implementation of these Regulations across the EU.

The successful candidate will support our work through a variety of tasks including desk-based research into timber trade. Research will focus on trade chains, national legislation and ways of assessing risk of illegality in timber trade. This work will require the collation and synthesis of relevant scientific and policy information/data.

Through this placement, the intern will gain insights into European policy and regulations governing timber trade and broader topics relating to illegality of timber supply, while also gaining valuable research and writing skills in a professional environment.

Learning Objectives

- Gain experience of literature/information compilation and synthesis.

- Learn how to recognise when more technical knowledge is required, as well as how to gain it and check its reliability.
- Build knowledge of the EU regulations relating to international timber trade (EU Timber Regulation and FLEGT Regulation).
- Gain an understanding in the analysis and use of data to inform policy decisions.
- Gain experience with database entry, standardisation and curation.
- Understand the strategy, structure, operating procedures, systems, culture and values of a typical conservation organisation.
- Work in a project led environment and strengthen time management skills to ensure tasks are delivered to deadlines.
- Gain experience using reference management software used throughout the scientific community.

Duties and Responsibilities

Under the guidance of Species staff, the intern will:

- Undertake desk-based research to collate scientific and policy information/data relevant to the implementation and enforcement of the EUTR and FLEGT Regulation.
- Develop their skills in writing/synthesising information into concise summaries/briefs for policy-makers
- Help maintain the Centre's reference database using reference management software.

Requirements and Qualification

- Bachelor's degree or higher in a relevant environmental field.
- A strong interest in environmental policy, particularly regarding the regulation of international timber trade.
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills.
- Excellent attention to detail.
- Research skills and ability to critically assess information.
- Must be competent with Microsoft Office, including Word and Excel.
- Ability to take initiative and the ability to work both independently and as part of a team.