



## **INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY WITH**

# **The Institutional Canopy of Conservation (I-CAN) Project: A Partnership between McGill University & The African Conservation Centre (ACC) in East Africa**

## **SUMMER 2018**

**POSITION:** Intern (6 positions, for 3 pairings)

**LOCATION:** Kenya

### **The Institutional Canopy of Conservation (I -CAN) Project**

The I-CAN program is a partnership project involving a rich network of collaborators and partners from universities, research institutions across the world. The project looks into governance and the conservation of rangelands, wetlands and forests of the East African savannah, especially in the borderlands between Kenya and Tanzania where the world's greatest concentration of biodiversity and its most significant repository of wildlife lies. The I-CAN research team addresses the challenge of combining protection of biodiversity with strengthened livelihoods, whether through recognizing local rights over resources, livelihood diversification, or stimulation of a new green, post-oil economy, including ecotourism. A major goal of the research is to identify the most effective designs for effective future Community-Based Conservation programs by examining the impacts of ongoing conservancy experiments on community livelihoods and members' attitudes and practices towards natural resources.

The African Conservation Centre (ACC), based in Nairobi, Kenya, is the East African hub of I-CAN activities and thus will be a point of contact for interns once they are in Kenya.

Interns will be sent in pairs to work with one of three I-CAN partner organizations, each with slightly different foci:

### **SORALO (South Rift Association of Landowners)**

*Very rural (6-hour bus ride from Nairobi), Olkiramatian community land, South Rift (closest major town is Magadi)*

SORALO is a community-based initiative whose primary role is to bring landowners together for effective and sustainable management of natural resources over an area of approximately 1.3 million hectares. Established in 2004, SORALO is a land trust that represents landowners and advocates for joint management of 16 Maasai group ranches that form the bridge between the famous Maasai Mara National Reserve and Amboseli National Park in Kenya's South Rift. Our programs are related to research, education, cultural heritage, women's enterprise, and conservation. On any given day, interns might be asked to work on blog content, to help with publications/reports/pamphlets/guide books, or join a visiting researcher or school group on their field trips to document. They will be based at the Lale'enok Resource Centre, and sleep in tents with raised cots. The work we do does not strictly follow a 5-days-a-week schedule, so

interns might be expected (or find themselves) working on weekends but are free to craft their own schedules as long as it is approved by their supervisor.

### **IMPACT (Indigenous Movement for Peace Advancement and Conflict Transformation)**

*Nanyuki town (3-hour bus ride from Nairobi), northern Kenya*

IMPACT is a peacebuilding, human rights, governance, land rights and policy advocacy and community development organization working among and with pastoralist communities to address the major problems faced by minority and indigenous people. In this regard IMPACT has been keen to tackle first and foremost, the loss of land rights, historical land injustices, exploitation of resources without participation or accruing benefits. Secondly, IMPACT has been keen to tackle problem and challenges relating to government biased development and conservation policies, social exclusion and discrimination based on descent that continue to undermine the dignity of indigenous people and minorities in key target counties of Laikipia, Isiolo, Marsabit and Samburu counties of Kenya. Interns usually stay in a guest house (can pay for meals) near the IMPACT office that we can connect them with, and in recent years have been helping primarily with fundraising campaigns. The office work loosely follows a 9-to-5pm schedule but there are field trip opportunities.

### **ILEPA (The Indigenous Livelihoods Enhancement Partners)**

*Narok town (2.5-hour bus ride from Nairobi), western Kenya*

ILEPA aims to enhance environmental conservation and livelihoods diversification for pastoralist indigenous communities with focus on Osuopuko division in Narok County. It aims to enhance livelihoods with diversification options and sources of income. It will further improve access, management and sustainable use of natural resources to ensure security of livelihoods, experimentation and validation of REDD+ safeguards locally and nationally. It also aims to improve and enhance indigenous peoples' participation in governance in the context of natural resource management promoting accountability and transparency. The ILEPA office is in Narok town, a short bus ride away from the apartment complex that interns usually stay at. You will be cooking for yourselves at this site. Usually a five day working week applies, but this cannot be guaranteed.

#### **INTERN'S DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- I-CAN requires that interns write either an independent study paper or internship paper as part of their internship (e.g. ANTH 499, POLI 480, INTD 380). You must check with your faculty and get approval to carry this course out when you apply to the internship.
- The needs and programs of each partner organization are constantly changing, thus flexibility of applicants is paramount.

#### **HOST ORGANIZATION REQUIREMENTS:**

- Strong interest in learning about issues around community conservation, sustainable development, land tenure security, community level development in East Africa
- Some academic background in issues related to conservation and/or development
- Ability to work with GIS and mapping is an asset
- Ability to take initiative and work/complete tasks with little supervision
- Willingness to study Swahili either in preparation for, or during, the internship

**HOURS:** Vary depending on the partner, discuss with supervisor upon arrival. Availability required weekends.

**REMUNERATION:** If the internship is unpaid, successful applicants may be eligible to apply for Faculty of Arts Internship Awards.

**HOW TO APPLY:** Students must complete the online Arts Internship Application Form available on the AIO website [www.mcgill.ca/arts-internships](http://www.mcgill.ca/arts-internships)

**Application Deadlines:**

**International internships: November 20, 2017.**

## **All internships will run for twelve weeks from May 7th to July 27th, 2018**

**ELIGIBILITY:**

- McGill Faculty of Arts student completed 60 credits
- Minimum CGPA of 2.7
- Returning to McGill in the fall following the internship
- Students must fulfill Faculty of Arts requirements as outlined in the Handbook for Interns

**COSTS:** The intern is responsible for all costs associated with the internship including transportation, accommodations, etc.

**TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS:** Preparing travel arrangements to and from the internship host community is the responsibility of the intern.

**ACCOMMODATIONS:** Finding suitable lodging during the internship is the responsibility of the intern.

**Please Note:**

Only short-listed candidates will be contacted. At that time, you may be asked to come in for an interview. The Arts Internship Office will then transmit the selected applications to the host organization, which will ultimately be responsible for the selection of the candidate(s).

*If you feel you have experienced barriers which have had an impact on your academic performance and wish to highlight these to the selection committee, the documents/comments will be taken into consideration..*

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**WORKSHOPS:**

Successful candidates are required to attend the following sessions:

- Faculty of Arts Interns Meeting (All internships)
- Cross-Cultural Workshop (Internships outside of Canada, the U.S & Europe)
- Interns Responsibilities and Guidelines
- International Travel Pre-Departure Session (Internships outside of Canada, the U.S & Europe)
- International Internship Debriefing Session (Internships outside of Canada, the U.S & Europe)
- Success in a Professional Environment (Internships in an office setting)

**HEALTH AND SAFETY:**

All applicants should consult the Global Affairs Canada Travel Reports for the internship host country prior to applying for this internship. [http://www.voyage.gc.ca/countries\\_pays/menu-eng.asp](http://www.voyage.gc.ca/countries_pays/menu-eng.asp)

Traveling, living and working abroad can involve certain risks to your health and safety that differ from your home country. These may include: crime, political/social instability, tropical diseases/infections, extreme weather conditions, poor infrastructure, etc.

The Arts Internship Office cannot guarantee the safety of any intern in their host country. It is up to the student to fully assess and prepare for any health or security risks that may be involved in pursuing this internship. Applicants are encouraged to discuss potential risks with their family prior to applying.

Applicants must ensure that they are physically and mentally capable of successfully completing an internship in the internship host country. The Arts Internship Office may request a doctor's attestation that an applicant is sufficiently healthy to complete an internship.

**ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:**

Interns are responsible for informing themselves of what entry requirements are required to visit and work as an intern in the internship host country. These may include a visa, work permit, passport valid for at least 6 months after entry, and proof of certain vaccinations.

The intern is responsible for acquiring all necessary documents in time for the beginning of their internship.