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Nature Squared - Internship investing in biodiversity

At <u>De Natuurverdubbelaars</u> (Nature^Squared) we are working towards a positive impact on biodiversity. We do this by undertaking projects at the nexus of ecology and economics. As a dynamic, Amsterdam-based, project office we are constantly exploring new opportunities in the field of biodiversity and natural capital. We work on topics such as regreening cities, regenerative agriculture, sustainable supply chains and green finance.

About the internship project

A global biodiversity crisis is underway with about 1 million species being threatened with extinction, many within decades (IPBES, 2019). To address this crisis, investments are needed. The current funding gap for conservation is estimated at US\$600-800 billion per year. The financial sector has to play a key role in helping narrow this funding gap and realize a positive impact on biodiversity at scale. In recent years, we have witnessed positive developments with biodiversity increasingly appearing on the agenda of the financial sector. The risks of biodiversity loss are increasingly endorsed (DNB & PBL, 2020) and various initiatives have been launched to incorporate biodiversity into investment policy such as the Finance for Biodiversity Pledge, the Biodiversity Working Group as part of the Sustainable Finance Platform, and the Partnership for Biodiversity Accounting Financials (PBAF).

We have been asked by a Dutch bank to perform market research into the opportunities to invest in biodiversity positive projects. Within our research, we look at which are the most promising sectors to realize a positive impact on biodiversity and under which circumstances? What are interesting real-life examples of biodiversity positive investments? What are the technical and financial conditions and how do these match with the current investment framework and policy of the bank? To generate a better understanding of these questions and provide targeted advice on the opportunities to invest in biodiversity, we are looking for a motivated intern who has affinity with the topic of finance & biodiversity.



Who are we looking for?

- You are a master student, you have recently obtained your bachelor or master degree, or you are in the last year of your bachelor program.
- You are studying finance or economics or have affinity with these fields of study.
- You are analytical, pro-active and you communicate well.
- You are ready to learn how to transform scientific knowledge into consultancy insights.

Are you excited to use your knowledge and skills to identify market opportunities for biodiversity positive investments? Then you might be the perfect candidate for us! We offer an internship for at least 3 days per week starting at a moment of your convenience, but no later than October 1st for a period of 3 months.

What can you expect?

- Doing market research on promising sectors and investment cases for realizing a positive impact on biodiversity. E.g. desk research and key informant interviews.
- Developing consultancy skills and applying scientific insights to a concrete case.
- Receiving strong support from our team in the form of in-depth discussions and process guidance.
- A close team that is eager to work for a more sustainable world.
- An informal atmosphere where there is always room for questions.
- Delicious vegetarian lunches.

About Nature^Squared

Nature^Squared is a project office based in Amsterdam, working in the field of biodiversity and natural capital. We see the global and rapid trend of biodiversity loss as one of the greatest challenges for humanity. At the same time, we are convinced that investing in biodiversity and ecosystem restoration provides a great opportunity for generating positive results for business, society and our planet. This is why our mission is to bend the curve of biodiversity loss by connecting ecology and economics. We work towards our mission in several domains: rural areas, nature-based solutions (NBS), companies & supply chains, green finance and international landscape restoration. We collaborate with governments, companies (from SMEs to multinationals) and NGOs in the Netherlands and abroad.

Are you our next intern? Please send your CV and short cover letter to iris@natuurverdubbelaars.nl