

INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME FOR THE CONVENTION ON MIGRATORY SPECIES AND OTHER UNEP SECRETARIATS BASED IN BONN
(CMS Family: AEWA, ASCOBANS, CMS AND EUROBATS)

Purpose of the Programme

- to provide university students with practical experience and education in UN institutions which complements their field of study and helps prepare them for their working lives
- to promote among the participants a better understanding of the functioning of Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) and to give an insight into the work of the United Nations
- to improve communication and outreach within the host country of the four Secretariats, by offering opportunities to young people who may later act as “ambassadors” for conservation
- to provide the CMS Family, comprising the Secretariats of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS), and its three co-located Agreements (the Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds (AEWA); the Agreement on the Conservation of Small Cetaceans of the Baltic and North Sea (ASCOBANS); and the Agreement on the Conservation of Populations of European Bats (EUROBATS) with the assistance of university graduates or students specialising in a field related to the work programmes of each organisation
- to render additional support in the preparation and servicing of CMS Family meetings.

Areas of Work

The interns would be assigned to, and supervised by, one of the professional staff in the scientific/technical, administrative and information fields to assist in the accomplishment of a specific task(s) or project(s). Possible areas of work could include, by way of example:

- assisting in the development of selected CMS Family conservation projects on specific species; following up on the implementation of such projects;
- compiling profiles of migratory species;
- assisting in the development and negotiation of separate Agreements, MoUs and Action/Conservation Plans;
- assisting in organising important CMS Family meetings;
- organising the CMS Family library - establishing a cataloguing system, revising/updating electronic management, arranging archival collection (electronic and hardcopy) of all official CMS Family documents;
- developing information material and poster displays;
- dealing with web site content development in specific areas;
- working on major specialised publications as the need arises;
- dealing with any other items of CMS Family interest;
- outreach activities particularly in the host country.
- working on joint activities with “ Friends of CMS”

Qualifications

Interns should be university graduates or students enrolled in a tertiary (i.e. post school) course of study in a field that is related to the work of the Secretariat. This would include biology, environmental and political sciences, law, business administration/economics, international studies, information technology, journalism or library science.

In addition it is vital that the interns have standard computer skills (Microsoft Office) and can produce written communications competently. As the CMS Family Secretariats' working language is English, full ability to work in English (both written and spoken) would normally be required for all internship positions. Knowledge of a further UN language (French, Spanish, Arabic, Chinese or Russian) would be an advantage. German or additional languages would also be an asset.