Tanintharyi Marine Field Coordinator, Myanmar

“In the past century FFI has consistently saved species from extinction and protected habitats from destruction. Their solutions have always been practical, efficient and sustainable in local circumstances.”

Sir David Attenborough, FFI Vice-president
Fauna & Flora International

Fauna & Flora International (FFI) saves species from extinction and habitats from destruction, whilst improving the livelihoods of local people. Our guiding principles are to work through local partnerships, act as a catalyst for change, make conservation relevant and base decisions on sound science. Founded in 1903, FFI is the world’s longest established international conservation body; our conservation work, and impact, spans the globe.

Myanmar Programme

Myanmar, the second largest country in mainland Southeast Asia, is home to a wealth of biodiversity. The country still harbours large tracts of forest and many charismatic and unique species. In stark contrast to the country’s biological riches, over two thirds of the country’s human population currently live below the poverty line and depend on natural resources for their survival. Despite their high dependence on natural resources, local people have been excluded from decisions concerning the country’s protected areas. Yet this situation is slowly changing. For the first time, grass roots organisations are being established to address issues of environmental governance and human welfare.

FFI is working with these emerging organisations from the snowy and mountainous north of the country in Kachin State to the densely forested and tropical south in Tanintharyi Region. In partnership with Government, NGOs and civil society, FFI’s work in Myanmar covers a range of diverse subjects including working on threatened species, forest, freshwater, karst and marine ecosystems, building skills in protected area management, engaging with the agriculture sector (palm oil) and awareness raising on the issues facing the country as it develops.

Tanintharyi Marine Programme

FFI’s marine work in Tanintharyi has been running since 2012 and is part of FFI’s wider Ridge to Reef Programme known as the Tanintharyi Conservation Programme (TCP). The marine component focuses on the Myeik Archipelago a vast 4 million ha marine seascape consisting of over 800 islands along Myanmar’s most southern coastline. The archipelago is a biologically rich and diverse seascape abound with unique, rare and threatened flora and fauna and the lifeblood of many island and coastal communities. Over the past five years FFI has undertaken comprehensive surveys of the coral reef, seagrass and mangrove ecosystems along with socio-economic surveys with local island communities. The work has culminated in Myanmar’s first Locally Managed Marine Areas (LMMAs) and the identification of key biodiverse areas ear-marked for inclusion in an MPA network. FFI has also been working on species-specific projects including marine turtles and sharks and rays and alongside local project partners is working towards long-term conservation of these species.

The Location: Myeik Town

Myeik (also written as Mergui) is a city on Myanmar’s south coast in Tanintharyi Region approximately 18-20 hours by bus and 1 hour by flight from Yangon. Although approximately 250,000 people live in Myeik it is still considered a small fishing town sitting on the waterfront. The
town does have a number of restaurants catering to westerners and several small shops with essentials plus a range of electronics and furniture for fitting a house. The expat community is however almost nonexistent, although Yangon based FFI staff travel to Myeik monthly. The position is therefore very much suited for someone who is after an immersive experience into Myanmar life and culture. Things to do include bike riding around town or to the various pagodas and small hilltops and boat trips through the mangroves or to the islands. Several swimming pools exist which can be used by the public, at a fee.

The Opportunity

FFI is now seeking a Marine Field Coordinator to support its Marine Programme in Tanintharyi within the Myeik Archipelago. Under the supervision of the Marine Programme Manager, and in close consultation with the FFI Marine team, Myeik University and government staff, the Field Coordinator will facilitate the field components of the MPA and LMMA meetings/consultations and support the marine team in undertaking biodiversity surveys, including coral reef, seagrass and mangrove. A key component will be the engagement of island-based fishing communities on a number of initiatives, from collaborating with LMMA committees and patrol teams to supporting their livelihood through a value chain improvement approach in a diverse and exciting cultural environment. The position will also assist in setting up the compliance component of FFI’s shark/ray project in Tanintharyi and sometimes at national level.

Terms and Conditions

Start Date: As soon as possible

Duration of Contract: Two-year fixed-term contract

Probation Period: Six months

Gross Salary Range: USD 26,000 – USD 28,800 per annum

Benefits: For international appointments, FFI expatriate benefits will apply

- 25 working days annual leave entitlement
- Medical insurance
- DAN diver insurance
- Annual return flight home
- Relocation flight on commencement of employment (if applicable)
- Repatriation flight on termination of employment (if applicable)
- Accommodation allowance

Location: Myeik, Tanintharyi, Myanmar (including approximately bi-monthly trips to the islands and quarterly trips to Yangon)

Hours of Work: This is a full-time position, working Monday to Friday from 09:00 to 17:30 with a one-hour lunch break each day

NB: This is an unaccompanied position
Job Description

Job Title: Tanintharyi Marine Field Coordinator, Myanmar

Reporting to: Marine Programme Manager, Myanmar

Working with: Myanmar finance team
Marine and Freshwater Programme Manager
Country Director, Myanmar

The Tanintharyi Marine Field Coordinator will routinely liaise with field teams, national and local government agencies, communities and community-based organisations, partner NGOs and for-profit entities, academic institutions, funders and donors, representing the values and interests of FFI at all times.

Purpose:

To assist with the effective development, management and delivery of the Tanintharyi marine programme, specifically:

- Provide technical advice to the field operations of the Tanintharyi marine conservation programme
- Provide support and actively participate in initiatives aimed at supporting the livelihood of island communities
- Support quarterly work planning for the marine component of the Ridge to Reef programme
- Support biodiversity surveys and the establishment and management of LMMAs and MPAs
- Support the Marine and Freshwater Programme Manager in management of assigned staff and consultants.

Main Duties:

Management

- Oversee the day-to-day field activities of the Tanintharyi marine conservation programme, providing a mentoring role to the marine team, developing workplans for field activities and reporting on progress
- Monitor advances and expenditures of field trips specifically related to sharks, turtles, LMMAs, biodiversity surveys and MPAs

Technical assistance

- Coordinate field activities related to:
  - The establishment of Marine Protected Areas including needs assessments and consultations with stakeholders
  - LMMA management through supporting the LMMA Facilitator in providing technical advice to the LMMAs including monitoring and guiding the LMMA patrol programme, fish-catch data collection and general implementation of the management plan, as well as the establishment of new LMMAs in the region
  - Assist in the delivery of FFI’s livelihood programme to LMMA communities including micro-finance and market value chain assessments
  - Socio-economic surveys and analysis of results, as a baseline and as long-term monitoring of LMMA effectiveness
Ecological research projects including coral reef, seagrass and mangrove habitat assessments including supervising data collection, analysis and reporting
Marine turtle research including nesting and hatching success surveys and fisher/community surveys
Shark and ray conservation including market and trade surveys, developing enforcement programmes (including informant networks), undertaking in water Baited Remoted Underwater-Video (BRUV) surveys, trialling by-catch reduction devices etc.
Education and awareness programmes for marine ecosystems and species

- Build technical and managerial capacity through the provision of training, both formal and on-the-job for FFI’s marine team as well as project partners including government, civil society and university staffs

**Communications**
- Overseer work of, and maintain regular communications and liaison with, project staff, consultants and partners involved within marine projects in Tanintharyi, whilst ensuring communication is effectively maintained with the team
- Contribute to communications and fundraising materials as required (e.g. web pages, articles, reports)
- Represent FFI at workshops and meetings related to the marine programme in Tanintharyi

**Other**
- Ensure that field operations and local office management are conducted to a high standard of health and safety and environmental good practice
- Supervise the maintenance and inventory of the field equipment notably dive gear

### Person Specification

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<th>Essential</th>
<th>Desirable</th>
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<td><strong>Skills</strong></td>
<td>Dealing with and supervising university staff and students</td>
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<td>• Outcome oriented research supervision</td>
<td>• History of technical and/or scientific publications</td>
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<td>• Strong technical reporting skills, including the ability to analyse and interpret data</td>
<td>• Experience working on projects with marine megafauna, specifically sharks, rays or turtles.</td>
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<td>• Strong interpersonal, communication and presentation skills (written and verbal)</td>
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<td>• Proven people skills, especially of working in multi-cultural environments and with non-English speakers</td>
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<td>• Ability to work in remote areas with limited supervision</td>
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<td>• Strong organisational skills</td>
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<td>• Good attention to detail, especially in data organisation and management</td>
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<td><strong>Knowledge and experience</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>• BSc or higher academic qualification in marine biology or a related discipline</td>
<td>• MSc or equivalent training or experience in marine conservation, marine biology, fisheries management, biology, or a related discipline</td>
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<td>• Experience of community engagement in remote areas, ideally involving livelihood support initiatives</td>
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<td>Demonstrated experience with capacity development including training, coaching and mentoring others</td>
<td>Experience or knowledge of reef resilience studies</td>
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<td>Experience in coral reef surveys</td>
<td>Divemaster or above certification</td>
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<td>Familiarity with seagrass surveys</td>
<td>First Aid and Oxygen certified</td>
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<td>Experience in market and/or landings surveys for fish or other marine wildlife</td>
<td>Experience in providing theoretical classes on marine ecology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Experience working with local communities including socio-economic surveys and resource mapping</td>
<td>Familiarity with illegal wildlife trafficking issues</td>
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<td>Experience managing small project budgets and staff</td>
<td>Minimum dive certification (PADI Rescue Diver or equivalent)</td>
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<td>An understanding and experience of working in or with NGOs</td>
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<th>Behavioural qualities</th>
<th>Interest in indigenous cultures and customary resource management</th>
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<td>Trustworthy</td>
<td>Some knowledge of Burmese language</td>
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<td>Culturally sensitive and adaptable</td>
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<td>Ability to work in the field on isolated islands for several days at a time, including staying on small boats, basic sleeping conditions and scuba diving</td>
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<td>Ability to work independently</td>
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<td>Flexible and responsive to the needs of the organisation</td>
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**How to Apply**

Applications, consisting of a covering letter, a full CV and contact details for two referees (who will not be approached without your permission), should be sent electronically to Thang Cin (thang.cin@fauna-flora.org) and Filippo Carli (filippo.carli@fauna-flora.org).

In your cover letter, please explain why you feel you should be considered for this post, highlighting your relevant skills, knowledge and experience and how they meet the requirements of the role profile.

Please mark your application ‘Tanintharyi Marine Field Coordinator, Myanmar’.

The closing date for applications is **Sunday, 4 August 2019**. Candidates selected for interview will be contacted by email or telephone by 21 August 2019 at the latest – please specify your preferred method of contact in your covering letter and indicate where you saw this position advertised. Interviews will be held during the week commencing 26 August 2019.

Regrettably, due to limited resources and the high number of applications we receive, we are only able to contact short-listed candidates. If you do not hear from us within four weeks of the closing date, please assume that you have not been successful on this occasion.
Applicants with Disabilities

FFI encourages applications from individuals with a disability who are able to carry out the duties of the post. If you have special needs in relation to your application, please contact Jade Bedwell, HR Officer, FFI, on Tel: +44 (0)1223 749044 or Email: jade.bedwell@fauna-flora.org.

FFI values diversity and is committed to equality of opportunity.