

Developing future professionals in conservation, education and ecotourism for engaged youths of the East and South of Mauritius.



This internship is designed with the aim to provide training in specialist field skills, desk-based and soft skills with at least 1-year work experience to 5 interns. This initiative will increase employability and career opportunities, and the skills acquired will improve the local community's outlook on conservation, which will eventually contribute to national biodiversity targets.

Overview of the financial year 2024/2025, Kamakshi, Laurine, Rameshwar, Juliano and Elynie successfully completed their internship, following which Rameshwar, Juliano and Elynie accepted a permanent contract of employment with the Mauritian Wildlife Foundation. Recruitment was still challenging as many applicants did not respond to our messages or did not fit the internship criteria. Therefore, we extended this opportunity to young Mauritians seeking vocational training who are deeply committed to conservation from outside of the core region of Mahebourg. All interns received in-depth training related to their respective activities, they have proven to be enthusiastic, committed and have demonstrated an ability to learn.

Fauna (Passerine projects)

Training on:

- Provision of supplementary food
- Monitoring breeding
- Capture, handling and ringing of birds
- Mist netting and extraction of birds
- Data collection and data entry



Photo: Fauna intern Laurine explaining the Mauritius Fody project to university students.

Photo: Fauna intern Ishika observing a Mauritius Fody in the forest.

Fauna (Passerine projects)



Photo: Fauna intern Juliano learning how to extract an exotic bird from a mist net.



Photo: Fauna interns Ishika learning what data to record during ringing and Yogesh learning how to ring and take measurement on an exotic bird.

Fauna (Pink Pigeon project)

Training on:

- Provision of supplementary food
- Monitoring breeding
- Capture, handling and ringing of birds
- Predator control
- Data collection and data entry

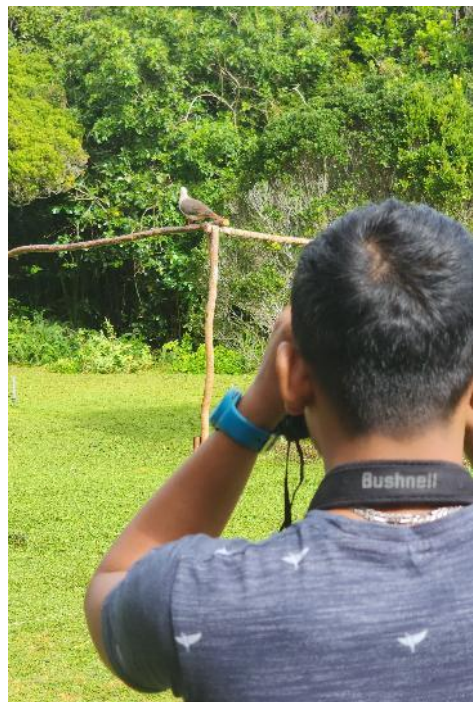


Photo: Fauna intern Jayesh conducting feeder attendance watches for the Pink Pigeon.

Flora (Flora project)

Training on:

- Nursery management
- Planting techniques
- Propagating techniques
- Restoration techniques
- Data collection and Data entry



Photo: Flora intern Rameshwar potting in the plant nursery on Ile aux Aigrettes.



Photo: Flora intern Rameshwar conducting phenology in the forest.

Ecotourism/Education (Ecotours)

Training on:

- Delivery of professional tours in French and English to various age groups.
- Monitoring the South East Islets.
- Workshop and schools talk.



Photo: Ecotours intern Elynie, conducting a guided visit to a group of youth.

Photo: Ecotours intern Kursteine, conducting a guided visit to tourists.



Photo: Fauna intern Laurine, helping to take attendance of participants during a workshop.

Classroom training

- Conservation management.
- Bird population monitoring.
- Monitoring breeding productivity in birds.
- Supplementary feeding of birds.
- Bird ringing.
- Creating digital maps with open source mapping software QGIS.



Photo: Fauna intern Yogesh during a group activity.