

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 of providing 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 2025/2026, Yogesh, Jayesh, Kursteine and Ishika MOL Interns completed their internships, Kursteine and Ishika were given a contract of employment and two new MOL Interns were recruited Marie and Joanecy. Recruitment continued to be challenging so we extended this opportunity to Mauritians outside of the core region that were looking for conservation training. The interns received in-depth training related to their respective activities and had the opportunity to determine whether this was the right career choice for them. This internship is improving the local community's outlook on conservation, and we hope to continue this process in 2026.

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 interns Ishika, Marie, Joanecy and Yogesh learning what data to record during ringing and learning how to ring and take measurement on an exotic bird

Fauna (Passerine projects)



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



Photo: Fauna interns Ishika ringing a Mauritius Fody.

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 fixing the Pink Pigeon aviary

Flora

Training on:

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



Photo: Fauna intern Jayesh watering endemic plants at Pigeon Wood.



Photo: Fauna intern Ishika potting in the plant nursery on Ile aux Aigrettes.



Photo: Fauna intern Marie conducting phenology in the forest.

Ecotourism/Education

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 Kursteine, conducting a guided visit to tourists.

Ecotourism/Education



Photo: Fauna interns Ishika and Marie participating to a visit led by the Education team.



Photo: Fauna intern Ishika helping in an activity organised by the Education team.

Classroom training

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



Photo: Fauna intern Joanecy during a group activity.



Photo: Fauna interns Ishika, Joanecy and Marie during the Excel training.