



## Blue Finance Specialist

<b>Job grade</b>	4	<b>Reports to</b>	Senior Sustainable Finance Specialist
<b>Directorate</b>	Conservation & Policy	<b>Function</b>	Sustainable Business & Finance
<b>Contract</b>	Permanent	<b>Location</b>	Regent's Park; other international ZSL offices will be considered.

### Responsibility for resources

<b>Direct line reports</b>	None	<b>Responsibility for other resources</b>	None
<b>Financial resources</b>	The postholder may be assigned project budgets to manage		

### Our vision and mission

The Zoological Society of London (ZSL) is an international conservation charity, driven by science, working to restore wildlife in the UK and around the world. Our vision is a world where wildlife thrives and every role, every person in every corner of ZSL has one thing in common – we are all conservationists, and passionate about restoring wildlife.

ZSL works extensively on marine, coastal and freshwater biodiversity research, protection and restoration, working from Greenland to the Philippines on a wide range of projects, in collaboration with local communities, research institutions, civil society organisations and governments. Through its sustainable finance programme, ZSL aims to sustainably finance these initiatives, drawing on a wide range of blue economy business models including carbon credits, biodiversity credits, sustainable seafood and tourism.

### Purpose of the role

The purpose of the role is to provide technical analysis and/or management of assigned blue finance projects, taking them from concept development to investment readiness, in order to sustainably finance marine, coastal and freshwater biodiversity protection and restoration across ZSL and partner sites in the UK and overseas. There will be a focus on carbon and biodiversity credits but the postholder is likely to work on other income streams as well.

The post holder will draw on their quantitative background in an area related to marine, coastal and freshwater biodiversity and ability to research and synthesise policy regulation, together with their ability to plan and coordinate remote teams undertaking analytical studies. They will work closely with field conservation teams, local partners, researchers in the Institute of Zoology and other subject matter experts in the Conservation and Policy Directorate to achieve their objectives.

### Key responsibilities

The postholder will work with other technical specialists at ZSL in a collaborative manner to deliver the following tasks:

### Technical Analysis

- Develop quantitative models for projects to estimate project/business outputs, including carbon credits, biodiversity credits and seafood/aquaculture production volumes
- Undertake policy, regulation and land tenure research and analysis
- Prepare project feasibility studies and design documents
- Develop business models and project plans
- Prepare concept notes, grant applications and pitch decks

### Project Management

- Manage the delivery of assigned projects including coordinating the project team
- Identify, manage and mitigate assigned project risks
- Prepare and update project budgets, forecasts and expenditure statements
- Undertake procurement activities for goods and services including drafting contracts
- Draft and submit project reports and work with finance team on financial reports
- Ensure assigned projects are compliant with ZSL policies and procedures, and head contract terms and conditions
- The postholder may be responsible for management of volunteers/interns and contractors as required. The postholder may also be required to help supervise or co-supervise students

### Knowledge & Capacity

- Write or contribute to discussion papers, blog posts and journal articles
- Prepare and deliver presentations, training and workshops
- Provide ad hoc technical advice and capacity development

The duties and responsibilities described are not a comprehensive list and additional tasks may be assigned from time to time that are in line with the level of the role.

## Person Specification

Experience	
Essential	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Experience developing quantitative models of project outputs related to carbon, seafood production and/or biodiversity, based on field data</li><li>• Experience with developing long-term project budgets, preferably within the field of biodiversity conservation and restoration</li><li>• Experience undertaking enabling environment research including the identification and application of legislation, policy and regulation relevant to land use and management.</li><li>• Experience of working with international teams in cross-cultural environments, including those based in the Global South</li></ul>
Desirable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Spatial data analysis expertise compiling and analysing remote sensing data</li><li>• Carbon modelling expertise based on field data and the application of relevant methodologies</li><li>• Experience in business model design</li><li>• Experience writing grant applications and project proposals</li></ul>
Knowledge and skills	
Essential	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• An understanding of the range of sustainable finance mechanisms related to the blue economy</li><li>• A basic understanding of the principles of carbon projects and the role of carbon standards and methodologies e.g. Verra</li></ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ability to present research findings in a coherent manner in presentations and reports</li> </ul>
Desirable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Familiarity with R or other statistical analysis software</li> <li>• Familiarity with emerging biodiversity credits metrics and standards, including Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) in England</li> <li>• An understanding of the components of financial statements</li> <li>• An understanding of what makes projects 'investment ready'</li> </ul>
Additional requirements	
Essential	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A willingness to travel internationally, including to remote areas</li> <li>• An ability to attend meetings in London at least once a fortnight at the postholder's own expense, unless based in another ZSL regional hub</li> </ul>