

RESEARCH ASSISTANTS FOR GASHAKA GUMTI NATIONAL PARK

Terms of Reference (ToR)

Background

Gashaka Gumti National Park (GGNP) straddles Taraba and Adamawa States in Nigeria. The park's forests have some of Africa's highest levels of plant and animal biodiversity, partly due to the highly varied landscape and habitats within the park, including dry wooded savannah, lowland rainforest, montane grassland, and montane cloud forests. Unfortunately, the park is threatened by poaching, logging, artisanal mining, and forest fires (from cattle grazing). In 2018, Africa Nature Investors (ANI) Foundation signed a 30-year co-management agreement with the National Park Service to protect and develop the park.

ANI is offering six-month internships for Research Assistants at Gashaka Gumti National Park. The Research Assistant Interns will work closely with the Research Coordinator, supporting scientific research across all disciplines (ecology, conservation biology, and socio-economic studies) within GGNP by collecting, organizing, and analysing data. The Research Assistants will report to the Research Coordinator.

Based at: Gashaka Gumti National Park

REQUIRED SKILLS AND QUALIFICATIONS

- Bachelor's degree or HND in relevant field such as Environmental science, Biology, Ecology, Conservation, Geography, Agriculture, or a related discipline.
- Basic proficiency in Microsoft Office, particularly Word and Excel, with an interest in learning research & data analysis tools, and field/laboratory equipment.
- Good written and verbal communication skills, with the ability to work respectfully and effectively with researchers, field teams, local communities, and other stakeholders.
- Willingness and ability to work in challenging and remote environments, including national parks and other conservation areas.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

Data Collection & Analysis:

- Support the research team with literature reviews and data collection through surveys, interviews, observations, and focus group discussions.
- Gain practical experience in organizing, cleaning, and analysing qualitative and quantitative data using relevant tools and software.
- Contribute to research reports, summaries, and presentations while learning from and working closely with experienced researchers.

Project Documentation:

- Support project planning and record-keeping, assist with data collection and updating research databases, and contribute to preparing project reports, documentation, and draft manuscripts.
- Gain practical experience in research documentation and reporting under the guidance of experienced team members.

Laboratory/Field Management:

- Support the day-to-day management of laboratory and field activities, including proper handling and maintenance of equipment and materials.
- Assist with supervising undergraduate students and learn to apply basic testing methods and safety procedures under the guidance of experienced team members.

Benefits – This is a paid internship. Accommodation and meals will be provided.

Please send your CV and cover letter as one pdf document to recruitment@ani-nigeria.org by October 17th, 2026. Subject of the email should be "Research Assistant Internship for Gashaka".