



#### Position Description

### **‘Āko‘ako‘a Pacific Knowledge Exchange Coordinator**

#### **Who we are:**

The Arizona State University Center for Global Discovery and Conservation Science (GDCS) is an enterprising organization that leads the multi-agency ‘Āko‘ako‘a Ridge to Reef Restoration Program on Hawai‘i Island, focused on improving coral reef outcomes and community participation along the 190 km stretch of coastline. The ‘Āko‘ako‘a program requires an integrated combination of activities with diverse personnel, multiple marine and aviation assets, land-based facilities, and operations to achieve mission success. Current personnel structures are fluid and require individuals to take on diverse roles that forge new ground for the program. ASU and the State of Hawai‘i Division of Aquatic Resources (DAR) have partnered at the state-of-the-art new Ridge-to-Reef Restoration Center (3RC), located in Kailua-Kona, to generate a blended management, research, and education hub that serves the West Hawai‘i coastline. We seek top personnel to grow all programmatic elements and to shape scientific and culturally-based solutions for reef resilience on Hawai‘i Island, and share the program’s successes with reef-reliant communities of the Pacific islands.

#### **Who you are:**

Our Center seeks a curious and community-oriented engagement professional to serve as **Pacific Knowledge Exchange Coordinator**, working with culturally-based ridge to reef programs in the Pacific to facilitate bi-directional learning between the ‘Āko‘ako‘a program in West Hawai‘i and similar programs in the Pacific. The right candidate will be an expert at building strong relationships, and will have a professional history of working with diverse communities in remote geographies, understanding their unique cultural environments and how to best steward their work based on cultural norms. While a scientific background is not required, the candidate must

be knowledgeable about island communities' relationships with their natural environment in the face of a changing climate. Strong writing and communication skills are critical for the Coordinator's success.

### **Your challenge:**

The **Pacific Knowledge Exchange Coordinator** will be empowered to engage in the following programmatic activities:

1. **Foster key relationships** with partners and community members. As program representative, the Coordinator will be empowered to develop relationships with stakeholders in analogous programs in the Pacific, understand their challenges and needs, and build alliances and networks that further engagement objectives.
  - Take over existing relationships with Pacific partners from the NGO, governance, University, and private sector communities and nurture their growth, and represent the West Hawai'i-based restoration activities of the 'Āko'ako'a program
  - Grow the program's knowledge base of ridge-to-reef projects and coral restoration projects, and institutions who may be interested in developing this capacity
  - Expand the program's network in the Pacific, documenting new contacts and details of their projects
2. **Storytelling and content development for knowledge sharing.** To further the program's goals of sharing success stories of community-embedded and culturally-informed ridge to reef restoration programs, identify meaningful success stories to share publicly and facilitate their execution. Will include blogs, reports, videos, social media content, and more.
  - Collaboratively generate persuasive content about West Hawai'i's lessons learned, successes, opportunities, and challenges for sharing with Pacific network
  - Plan and implement innovative and creative engagement plans geared toward specific audiences
  - Identify and document, in simple-to-understand terminology, the factors involved in successful (and unsuccessful) programs across the Pacific
  - Turn stories and learnings from individual Pacific partners into engaging digital content that is mutually beneficial for partners and the 'Āko'ako'a program
  - Work with marketing team members to capture compelling photo and video footage for high quality case studies to be showcased on the Ridge-to-Reef knowledge sharing platform on the Allen Coral Atlas
3. **Establish and maintain a community knowledge-sharing platform**, encouraging successful partners to share their approaches in line with the cultural and community-based aspects of their work.

- Work with technical project team to choose and implement the right knowledge-sharing platform for this audience, and support their troubleshooting with early users
  - Identify strong partners who can serve as early adopters in sharing their experiences
  - Represent the 'Āko'ako'a program on the platform by sharing its challenges and successes restoring the ecological and cultural integrity of West Hawai'i's reefs
  - Moderate the community forum for appropriateness, and encourage new topics, collaboration, etc.
4. **Monitor and qualitatively evaluate success.** Utilize measurement and evaluation practices to dynamically evaluate the success toward the Pacific Knowledge Exchange's goals, identifying opportunities to expand, adapt, or pivot as needed.
- Develop a project assessment system to ensure the Knowledge Exchange goals remain highly responsive as it progresses
  - Monitor success toward program goals and report to program leadership
  - Identify novel opportunities to pilot for mutual benefit with partner organizations

**Minimum Qualifications:**

Bachelor's degree in a social science field AND two (2) years of experience in community stewardship/engagement; OR, five (5) years of related experience; OR, Any equivalent combination of experience and/or education from which comparable knowledge, skills and abilities have been achieved. Exceptional writing and oral presentation skills in the English language. Knowledge of cultural practices and/or coastal or marine conservation in Hawai'i.

**Desired Qualifications:**

- Knowledge of cultural practices and/or coastal or marine conservation across the Pacific
- Demonstrable writing and oral presentation skills in languages commonly found in the Western Pacific
- Working knowledge of international organizations and their activities related to Pacific islands conservation and climate resilience

**Pay, Hours, and Place of Work:**

Compensation includes annual salary and a robust retirement, vacation, and medical/dental benefits package. Full time distributed uniformly between Monday and Friday, with occasional odd hours to accommodate for connecting with those in disparate time zones. The role will be based out of Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i, but exceptions may be made for the right Pacific country-based candidate to work remotely.

**To apply for this position:** please send your cover letter, resume/CV, and contact information for three potential providers of recommendation letters to Andrea Scott, [AndreaScott@asu.edu](mailto:AndreaScott@asu.edu).

Please include the position name you are applying for in your email subject line.

Position will remain open until filled.