

The Chagos Islands: *Employment Roles for Chagossians*

This brief document lists potential employment opportunities in the Chagos for members of the Chagossian community.

ALL ISLANDS AND THE MARINE PROTECTED AREA

- **Beach litter clearance.** Removal of flotsam and jetsam deposited by the sea. At present infrequent on DG by volunteer parties from US Base. Includes considerable quantities of plastics dangerous to marine life.
- **Turtle monitoring.** Green turtle feeding area at southern lagoon-end of DG. Nesting beaches (Green & Hawksbill) on DG and Outer Atolls.
- **Bird surveys.** To build on existing knowledge and to extend seasonal knowledge of bird populations and nesting patterns.
- **Vegetation mapping.** To continue the Royal Botanic Gardens (Kew) work planned later in 2017.
- **Alien/Invasive species monitoring and control.** Mainly plants but also some animals.
- **De-ratting.** Reduction and removal of invasive rats on islands.
- **Erosion Studies and Monitoring.** Building a scientific database of island change for use in climate change studies.
- **Regeneration and replanting of native plants and tree species.**
- **Pollution/contaminant monitoring.**
- **Support for Visiting Scientific Parties.** Services and infrastructure for visiting scientists both on DG and Outer islands.
- **BIOT Administration.** (1) Assistance to Environment Officer and Fisheries Officer; e.g., monitoring/recording of recreational shoreline and boat fishing on DG, control of cleanliness of imported building material, etc., (2) Substitution of civilians for military personnel as envisaged by FCO, e.g., clerks, customs officers, etc.
- **Graveyards.** Restoration and maintenance of graveyards throughout Chagos.
- **Other heritage sites.** Maintenance and care.
- **BIOT Patrol Vessel.** Crew.

DIEGO GARCIA ONLY

- **Barton Point Restoration Project.** Continue coconut clearance and native hardwood planting started in 2010. Ongoing task to prevent restored areas becoming overgrown.
- **East Point Plantation**
 - **Short stay.** US and civilian personnel from the base. Accommodation and catering. Guided nature walks, snorkelling, bird-watching, etc. Self-financing basis.
 - **Restoration and maintenance.** Plantation-era buildings and structures.
 - **History & Heritage Centre.** Sale of handicrafts/souvenirs.
 - **Chagossian Visit Centre.** Accommodation and catering.
 - **Reconstruction of pier (pile type).** For small boat access.
- **Eastern Conservation Area.** General maintenance of roads, paths, landscape, etc.
- **US Base.** Employment by Base Contractor.
- **Small scale enterprises.**
 - Limited cultivation of coconut plantations for production of fresh coconut, oil, soaps, etc. Sale of products to US Base.
 - Limited coral reef fishery – for consumption or sale to US Base.
 - Limited agricultural production – e.g. fruit and vegetables, consumption or sale.
 - Manufacture of souvenirs.

- Post Office and General Store (on US Base). Sale of BIOT postage stamps and produce from above schemes.

OUTER ATOLLS ONLY

- **MPA Protection.** 'Eyes and ears' for prevention of Illegal Unregulated and Unreported (IUU) fishing, landing on islands, and other illegal activities
- **Control of use of Outer Atolls by visiting yachts.** Maintenance of anchorages. Waste disposal and control. Monitoring fishing for personal consumption.
- **Strict Nature Reserves.** Enforcement and patrol.
- **Scientific support station.** Temporary structure and facilities for use by visiting scientists. Chagossian manned.