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COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT RESEARCH GROUP LEADER AT THE OCEANOGRAPHIC RESEARCH INSTITUTE

The Oceanographic Research Institute (ORI) is the research division of the South African Association for Marine Biological Research (SAAMBR), a nonprofit, public benefit organization founded in 1951 and based at uShaka Marine World in Durban. SAAMBR's mission is to contribute to the conservation of marine and coastal biodiversity and resources by generating and disseminating scientific information, and by inspiring and empowering people to connect with the ocean.

ORI's research activities extend well beyond KwaZulu-Natal and South Africa, to the African and island states of the Western Indian Ocean region, and globally. ORI fulfils a capacity building and training role through its affiliation with the University of KwaZulu-Natal and contributes significantly to the awareness of marine and coastal conservation through its sister divisions, uShaka Sea World and uShaka Sea World Education.

ORI has several research groups, each led by a senior scientist. Besides leading their research teams, senior scientists are expected to manage and develop the programmes for which they are responsible; raise funds by securing national and international grants, paid-for research and consultancies; build capacity through mentorship and post-graduate supervision; play a science engagement and advocacy role through various fora; provide scientific and management support within and outside the organisation; develop and sustain collaborations with other researchers, institutions and organisations that will enhance ORI's profile and capacity; and continue to raise ORI's, and their own, academic profiles through research excellence.

The coastal and marine environment of KwaZulu-Natal is one of the province's most valuable natural assets, supporting much of the regional economy and benefiting local citizens and the country. Therefore, identifying, understanding and monitoring the impact of human activities in the coastal zone is essential. ORI's Coastal Zone Management Research Group was initiated to focus on generating evidence for decision support on coastal zone management. This includes projects that assist directly with effecting the integrated coastal management Act, coastal monitoring, decision support systems, etc.

A senior scientist is sought to lead and grow this Coastal Zone Management Research Group. If you wish to apply for the position, you must meet the following selection criteria:

- A PhD, with at least 10 years of practical experience as a research scientist in a coastal zone science or directly relevant field.
- Sound knowledge of the relevant policies, legislation, governance structures and scientific literature relating to coastal management, with proven research and/or practical experience in the field.
- A track record of high-quality scientific articles published in the peer-reviewed literature and presented at national and international fora such as working groups, workshops, conferences, etc.



SOUTH AFRICAN ASSOCIATION FOR MARINE BIOLOGICAL RESEARCH (RF) NPC

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Registration No. 1951/00002/08 | Public Benefit Organisation No. 930025295 | Non-Profit Organisation No. 000-347 NPO

SAAMBR is a Non-Profit Company and a member of the IUCN (World Conservation Union) and WAZA (World Association of Zoos and Aquaria)

An accredited member of PAAZA (Pan-African Association of Zoos and Aquaria)

ORI is academically affiliated to the University of KwaZulu-Natal

- Demonstrable strategic ability and vision to lead and manage a team of scientists and technical staff in a manner that promotes a culture of excellence in the quality and delivery of applied research and consultancy.
- Experience in large, multidisciplinary projects (including financial management) through integrated planning and management.
- The ability to interact with colleagues, collaborators and clients and foster long-term strategic alliances with peers and organisations within South Africa and internationally.
- The ability to raise substantial funds by developing innovative, successful research proposals, and by attracting paid-for research and consultancy work through an established network of collaborators and clients.
- Experience in supervising post-graduate students (MSc and PhD), post-doctoral fellows and mentoring scientific and technical staff.
- The ability to partake in transferring scientific knowledge to action, by sitting on relevant committees, attending meetings and appropriate fora and by providing scientific advice and support to managers and decision-makers, as well as supporting the educational and public outreach efforts of SAAMBR.
- Preferably, the incumbent will be networked into the South African coastal science community. i.e. have relationships and networks at different spheres of government.

As ORI's Coastal Zone Management Research Group senior scientist, you will be expected to lead your team in the field and train them in appropriate methods of data collection, analysis and management.

If you meet the requirements and would like to apply for this position, please submit your Curriculum Vitae and a covering letter, **in which you address each of the selection criteria**, by either

- email: recruitment@saambr.org.za; or
- Hand delivery: K Ramsaroop, HR Manager, SAAMBR, uShaka Marine World, 1 King Shaka Avenue, Point, Durban.

THE CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS HAS BEEN EXTENDED TO 4 APRIL 2025.

Appointments will be made in line with SAAMBR's employment equity requirements. SAAMBR reserves the right not to make an appointment.

Only potential short-list candidates will be contacted. Should you not have heard from us by 30 April 2025, please consider your application unsuccessful.