## Tasks and Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Research on Bioversity International’s recent projects to form the basis for developing stories for different communication channels such as the institutional website, mailing lists, info booklets and promo materials, and social media channels</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assisting the communications team in producing communications materials, such as web stories, brochures, photo series or digital communications</td>
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<td>Assisting the communications team in social media messaging, monitoring and measurement</td>
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<td>Assisting the implementation and Communications Coverage of Science Week</td>
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<td>Working on the organization’s website; news and pages design</td>
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<td>Assisting the communications team on one of the 2017 flagship communications campaign around a book about using and safeguarding agricultural biodiversity; coming up with a PR plan for promo, writing a script for the promo video and planning other materials</td>
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Examples of articles I researched/interviewed for, wrote and published

Costa Rica improves risk-management with digital emergency management system

12 Jun 2017

Bioversity International’s risk-management, in cooperation with Agriculture and Livestock Co., has developed a national-scale system designed to help manage risks associated with the threat of Hurricane Otto in real time.

The system comprises an application used by Ministries, local governments, and by locating the corresponding data to Blavatnik, allowing for rapid development of an immediate response.

Extreme events of Hurricane Otto in November 2016 have left Costa Rica’s agriculture sector in tatters, leading to loss of livelihood and infrastructure damage.

Mutually implementing the Nagoya Protocol and the Plant Treaty in Madagascar

24 Jul 2017

Bioversity International and the Darwin Initiative came together to support the development of policies and mechanisms to mutually implement the Nagoya Protocol and the Plant Treaty, linking national and community levels. A Madagascan community comes up with an investment plan involving the promotion of sustainable tourism.

The 3-year initiative started in 2015 with the objective of promoting the mutual implementation of the Nagoya Protocol and Plant Treaty – two different international agreements on how countries exchange plant genetic resources – in a way that responds to local realities and contributes to development benefits. Funded by the Darwin Initiative and coordinated by Bioversity International, the aim is to support two communities in Benin and Madagascar to develop community biodiversity registries, access and benefit-sharing protocols, and conservation and sustainable use investment plans. The development of investment plans is meant to encourage the communities to use what is available to them locally to promote conservation and opportunities for community well-being in the future.

Integrated Landscape Initiatives (ILI) seek to unify policy and practice to address multiple challenges across a region, including conservation of biodiversity, maintenance of agricultural ecosystems and sustainable livelihoods. Asia has had integrated landscapes long before the term ILI was coined, such as the rice terrace systems of Ifugao in the Philippines.

Integrated Landscape Initiatives in South and Southeast Asia

16 Jun 2017

In the Landscape and Urban Planning journal, Bioversity International scientists and partners reviewed 168 integrated landscape initiatives in the region of South and Southeast Asia, revealing numerous obstacles and opportunities to achieve positive outcomes in landscape-scale initiatives. Some obstacles include a lack of involvement of the private sector, uneven participation of stakeholders on varying levels of design and implementation, damaging power dynamics and many others that interfere with the complex and demanding nature of integrated landscape initiatives.
What was most rewarding

- Learning to work in an office environment, more specifically in a relatively small international organization
- Getting to work independently, without strict supervision: responsibility and organization
- Meeting scientists in various fields who live across the world
- Most importantly: learning about agricultural biodiversity, why it matters and what can be done to support its mainstreaming and raise awareness. It’s extremely rewarding to learn about this topic since it’s so present in our everyday lives, but no one really teaches about it.
Science Week - the event that brought together the administrative staff and Bioversity scientists from all over the world. All enjoyed various events, activities, talks, presentations and workshops.
What I contributed to Bioversity International

- Innovative ideas and creativity
- In words of supervisor: “fresh set of eyes and a critical mind”
- Enthusiasm and team-spirit
- Persistence and reliability - being able to commit and deliver without strict supervision
- Confidence and initiative - not hesitating to take up challenging tasks, speak up about own thoughts and ideas, and bring unseen suggestions to the table
My idea for Science Week coverage that got a lot of positive comments: a mini Instagram campaign to show the “humanness” of our employees and field scientists.
How Bioversity International impacted my academic choices and career plans

1. wouldn’t enjoy a stiff work schedule
2. need a workplace that encourages creativity, innovation and self-initiative
3. don’t like jobs that are repetitive and too clerical
4. enjoy Biology and Ecological Sciences; decided to focus studies on that
5. considering scientific research down the road
6. decided not to major in language and culture
Bits and bobs: ROME!! ITALY!!

- Research about the city well before you arrive: everything from transportation, safety, prices to attractions, customs and traditions. Read about lives of expats in Rome to get a sense of what might be a culture shock for you (depending on where you come from).

- Living in Rome can be expensive - make sure to find accommodation well in advance! Maybe team up with other interns?

- It’s INCREDIBLY BEAUTIFUL! Plan your days/weekends to see all the things in Rome, and around (Naples - Pompeii, Pisa, Orvieto, Spoleto, Venice?, lakes, seaside... whatever you want!!). There’s definitely way too many amazing things, so plan well and utilize your time/money

- Meet other interns/travelers. Bioversity has a lot of youth working for them as well, but meeting people outside of work might be more beneficial.

- Bring VERY COMFY shoes; the streets require them 😊

- Be smart, stay safe and enjoy!