

Volunteer proposal

Volunteer for Seagrass Education & Outreach



Brief description of the volunteer proposal

We are looking for enthusiastic communicators to join the LIFE RESTORESEAGRASS project as an Education Volunteer. While our technical team is underwater, we need a dedicated "Blue Force" on land to bridge the gap between science and the community. As an Education Volunteer, you will be the voice of the seagrass meadows, engaging with students at the Oceanographic Museum and reaching out to the public at the beautiful beaches of Arrábida. Your mission is to inspire people to protect these "hidden forests" of the sea, sharing the importance of marine ecosystems with schools and the general public.

Proposed Tasks

As an Education Volunteer, you will actively engage with people and bring marine science to life through a variety of dynamic experiences:

- **Museum Activities:** Guide school groups and visitors through interactive sessions, helping them discover the hidden underwater world and seagrass ecosystems and its importance for marine life.
- **Beach Engagement:** Connect with locals and tourists along the stunning Arrábida coastline, raising awareness about seagrass conservation and how everyday actions can make a difference.
- **Impact Mitigation Advocacy:** Share simple, impactful messages about protecting marine ecosystems, explaining both how to avoid damaging seagrass (e.g. anchoring) and how restoration efforts work.



- **Connect Science and Community:** Help distribute materials, talk to people, and collect feedback—playing a key role in bringing community perspectives into the project.

Information about the volunteer proposal

Duration: From May to August 2026, with the possibility of an early start in April for training and orientation.

Team Structure: We are forming two teams of 2–3 volunteers each to allow for rotation and task variety.

Schedule: Volunteers are expected to commit 2 to 3 days per week, for a minimum period of 1 month.

Location: Portinho da Arrábida, Parque Marinho Luis Saldanha, Museu Oceanográfico do Portinho da Arrábida.

Working Hours: Daytime schedule (Standard work day is 5 hours, including breaks).

Specific Requirements

- Language Requirements: Fluency in Portuguese. Preference will be given to English-speaking candidates.
- Enthusiasm for environmental education and marine conservation.
- Availability to work outdoors (beaches/field) and in a museum environment.
- Willingness to interact with different audiences.
- No prior scientific background is required, but a passion for the ocean is essential!
- Interest in biology, environmental education, or similar fields is a plus.
- Preference will be given to candidates with residence near the project location (Lisbon, Setubal or Sesimbra districts).

What we offer: Hands-on experience in a real marine conservation project and specialized training in seagrass ecosystems and science communication. Participants will have the unique opportunity to engage directly with the public and make a tangible impact, while connecting with a passionate community working to protect the ocean. Transportation to the fieldwork sites is covered and insurance during the fieldwork activities is provided. Additionally, volunteers will receive an official volunteer certificate detailing the technical skills acquired and the total hours completed.

How to apply

To apply to this offer, please send us a resume of your academic background and other experiences, along with a small statement explaining why you are a suitable candidate for this position. Please use the subject 'Volunteer opportunity – Education' and send your email to (fsobreira@ispa.pt; diogo.brito@ispa.pt; mscala@ispa.pt; hsantamaria@ispa.pt; monica.costa@spea.pt).