



Advertisement for the position of

SCIENTIST

The South African Association for Marine Biological Research (SAAMBR) is a marine conservation organisation based at uShaka Marine World in Durban. The Oceanographic Research Institute (ORI), a division of SAAMBR, requires a suitably qualified person to undertake the role of Scientist in the coral reef research group. This is a permanent position.

The responsibilities will include:

- Developing, planning and undertaking ecological research projects, including long-term monitoring studies and SCUBA diving fieldwork, within the scope of the research group's aims.
- Managing funded research projects, ensuring their continuity, financial flows, reporting, and contribution to ORI's research and conservation goals.
- Analysing data and disseminating research findings in technical, peer-reviewed scientific and popular literature.
- Assistance with supervising junior staff and post-graduate students.
- Willingness to undertake work-related local and international travel as needed, including occasional weekends away from home.
- Supporting the research group leader in the execution of projects.

Minimum requirements for the position:

- A PhD in marine ecology is preferred, however an MSc graduate with substantial experience in sessile reef ecology, who is willing to register for a research group-related PhD will be considered.
- Peer-reviewed publication record.
- Experience in writing proposals and sourcing funds for research and or consulting.
- At least five years post-qualification experience in marine biological research.
- High-level proficiency in multivariate data analysis.
- Excellent written and oral communication skills.
- Ability to supervise students and junior staff.
- Class IV (or Class V commercial scientific diver) commercial diver with appropriate experience in undertaking underwater scientific surveys.
- Physically fit and able to lift at least 25 Kg.
- Seagoing experience on small vessels for long hours.



SOUTH AFRICAN ASSOCIATION FOR MARINE BIOLOGICAL RESEARCH (RF) NPC

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Registration No. 1951/000002/08 | 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 Aquariums)

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

ORI is academically affiliated to the University of KwaZulu-Natal

Advantageous:

- Willingness to register for a PhD
- Class IV commercial dive supervisor
- Code EB driver's licence
- Category C skipper's ticket
- East coast reef biodiversity knowledge
- Track record in undertaking coral reef ecology
- Experience in any of the following: supervising students, GIS, consulting, remote sensing, coral genomics, coral microbial ecology, coral physiology.

Application Process:

To apply for the Scientist position, please submit your CV and a covering letter outlining your relevant experience and skills. Submit your application by either:

- E-mail: recruitment@saambr.org.za
- Hand delivery: K Ramsaroop, HR Manager, South African Association for Marine Biological Research, 1 King Shaka Avenue, Point, Durban.

THE CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS IS 5 OCTOBER 2026

Appointments will be made in line with SAAMBR's employment equity requirements. Pre-employment checks will be conducted, and the appointment is subject to the positive outcome of the checks. In line with the Protection of Personal Information Act, all personal information submitted as part of your application will be used solely for recruitment purposes and handled in a lawful, responsible, and confidential manner. 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 October 2026**, please consider your application unsuccessful.