

Thesis position “Island waste management strategy”



Introduction

Waste management on islands is complex. Economic pressure is high. The number of inhabitants is ever growing and tourism is on the rise. As a result, the amount of waste that invades the island increases year after year. However, the island’s ecosystem is vulnerable, space is scarce and the island’s market for recyclables is limited. See here the challenge!

Fortunately, there is similarity in the hurdles islands face in their waste management. Knowledge gathered in one place will help to find a solution somewhere else. This principle is the core of Island Waste services. These services will help islands:

- to reduce waste quantities
- to increase waste recycling
- to raise funds for waste removal
- to reduce environmental impact
- to increase awareness

About Island Waste

Out of the experiences gained from solid waste management on islands and a network of international solid waste management professionals **Island Waste** started providing specific consultancy services and project management for cleaner islands in 2019.

Master Thesis outline

We are looking for an enthusiastic Master student who is keen to research on solid waste management on islands for his/her thesis. The basis of the thesis is a literature study focusing on the specific challenges for islands with respect to solid waste management and the available treatment technologies for different waste streams. A questionnaire will be developed and send out to solid waste experts on a number of islands to gather information on their specific island. The questionnaire will become a tool for **Island Waste** to collect the essential data when starting a project and allow Island Waste to build up an expert database that can be called upon for future projects. A technology tool will be developed based on the literature study and the information gathered through the questionnaire that to identify the most sustainable and scalable treatment technology per waste stream tailored to the circumstances and needs of an island. In the beginning of the thesis, the Master student and Island Waste will further discuss the focus of the thesis.

Profile

- Master student in Environmental Studies, Resource Management, International Development Studies, Engineering, other related studies
- Languages:
 - English required
 - French and/or Spanish preferable
- Somebody who is eager to contribute to the mission of Island Waste, has innovative ideas, can work in a team and also independently

Details

- Starting date: to be discussed
- Duration: 4 – 6 months (to be discussed)
- Full-time/part-time (to be discussed)
- Remuneration: 350 €/month
- Location: 1-2 days/week at the Island Waste office at Utrecht Community (www.utrechtco.nl) in Utrecht, rest of the time home-office

Further information

- Please contact Jan van Dijk, tel. +31 6 29316218

Application

- Send letter of motivation and CV to info@island-waste.com