

The Eco-Ethology Research Unit from ISPA (Lisbon) ([www.ispa.pt/ui/uie/ibbg](http://www.ispa.pt/ui/uie/ibbg)) is offering a master project in the following topic:

### **Project 3 – “Neuroendocrine modulation of cooperative behaviour – the effect of exogenously administered hormones on individual cleaner wrasse *Labroides dimidiatus* behavioural decisions”**

The main goal of this project is to study how neuroendocrine mechanisms modulate cooperative behaviour by analyzing how the Indo-Pacific blueshark cleaner wrasses *L. dimidiatus* respond to endocrine manipulation, while in their natural habitat and while interacting with real clientele. Observations to cleaner wrasses behaviour will be made before and after each treatment. All cleaner manipulation, from catching to hormone injections will be done underwater and at each cleaner's territory. The candidate is expected to conduct some laboratory work at Lisbon's Oceanario possibly prior and after the field work season. However, the core of this project will be field based, at Lizard Island Research Station (Great barrier Reef, Australia), for at least 2 months (middle July to middle September 2010) while diving during the entire research period, under the supervision of Dr Marta Soares. The suitable candidate is thus expected to have at least some minimum diving experience (and boat handling) and, ideally some relevant behavioural ecology background. Candidates should send a copy of their CV's and a motivation letter to [msoares@ispa.pt](mailto:msoares@ispa.pt).



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