

## New Deputy Director appointed for SAERI

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The Peterborough based Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC) and the South Atlantic Environmental Research Institute (SAERI), based in the Falkland Islands, have agreed to the appointment of Tara Pelembe into the new role of SAERI Deputy Director. Tara Pelembe is currently employed by JNCC and is to be seconded into the SAERI role for a period of up to two years. The secondment will build on existing working links established between the two organisations, and will allow close collaboration in the study of the natural environment of the UK's South Atlantic Territories, the sharing of technical expertise and the promotion of effective nature conservation in the region.

*This secondment represents a first class example of collaboration between JNCC and a key partner to pursue joint research objectives, and is particularly important at a time when we all need to ensure the effective and cost efficient use of our resources to support, in this case, the UK's Overseas Territories.*

Marcus Yeo, JNCC Chief Executive

*I am absolutely delighted with this appointment – it will enable SAERI and the JNCC to fulfil shared missions in the UK OTs and indeed help build capacity for Environmental Science.*

Paul Brickle, SAERI Director

*The agreement of an MoU between SAERI and the JNCC is a very positive step and will see them develop an even closer working relationship. This will only be reinforced by the secondment of Mrs Pelembe to the Islands as Deputy Director of SAERI. Building such partnerships and drawing in such expertise was a role envisaged for the Institute and this is another step along that road.*

Michael Poole, Member of the Falkland Islands Legislative Assembly



# SAERI NEWS

The SAERI is an academic organisation conducting research in the South Atlantic from the tropics down to the ice in Antarctica. SAERI's remit includes the natural and physical sciences. It aims to conduct world class research, teach students, and build capacity within and between the South Atlantic Overseas Territories (<http://south-atlantic-research.org/>).

JNCC is the public body that advises the UK Government and devolved administrations on UK-wide and international nature conservation. Originally established under the Environmental Protection Act 1990, JNCC was reconstituted by the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006 (<http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/>).