



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

CANDIDATE BRIEF

Research Fellow in Climate Information for Adaptation, School of Earth and Environment



Salary: Grade 7 (£33,199 – £39,609 p.a.) Due to funding limitations the post will be appointed at no higher than spine point 32 (£33,199 p.a.)

Reference: ENVEE1283

Closing date: 20 November 2018

Fixed term for 22 months (external funding)

Open to flexible working and job share

Research Fellow in Climate Information for Adaptation, School of Earth and Environment, Faculty of Environment

Are you an ambitious researcher looking for your next challenge? Do you have a background in climate science or philosophy of science? Do you want to further your career in one of the UK's leading research intensive Universities?

This position is supported by the Economic and Social Research Council's (ESRC's) Centre for Climate Change Economics and Policy (CCCEP), which is co-hosted by the University of Leeds and the London School of Economics (LSE). This post is based in Leeds and will involve close collaboration with LSE. The focus of the postdoctoral research project will be to develop a framework to investigate the quality of climate information for adaptation and empirically test it in at least one case study.

Regional and local climate information can potentially help society adapt to a changing climate, but despite significant progress in climate science – there is now a wealth of climate information drawn from multiple methods, models and generations of models – fundamental questions about the quality of climate information for adaptation remain unanswered. This project will develop a quality assessment framework drawing from and building on research in climate modelling, uncertainty analysis, philosophy of science, environmental modelling and associated fields.

As part of this project, you will be expected to conduct original research, resulting in academic publications as well as communication to broader audiences. You will be part of a larger research group led by Professor Suraje Dessai, and work collaboratively with Professor David Stainforth (LSE). There will also be opportunities to contribute to wider research and teaching initiatives across the School and Faculty.

It is expected that the post will be full time, however we are open to flexible working arrangements including job share.



What does the role entail?

Work will be carried out under the supervision of Professors Suraje Dessai and David Stainforth

As a Research Fellow your main duties will include:

- Contributing to the project's design and methodological development in collaboration with the PI and Co-Is;
- Developing innovative methods to investigate the quality of climate information for adaptation;
- Developing conceptual resources for the project through literature reviews and project wide meetings;
- Working with project investigators to lead the analysis and interpretation of research data and draw conclusions on the outcomes;
- Contributing to and lead research papers for publication;
- Preparing, with guidance from the PI and Co-Is, other project deliverables and presentations in a timely manner;
- Maintaining regular contact with other CCCEP Co-Is and the communications team in order to ensure the project section of the website is up to date;
- Playing a key role in fostering the wider dissemination and impact of research findings, including actively engaging in knowledge exchange activities;
- Actively participate in the Climate Change Adaptation Group, the Sustainability Research Institute (SRI), the Priestley Centre and the ESRC Centre for Climate Change Economics and Policy (CCCEP);
- Planning and managing your own research activity within the strategy identified for the project team as a whole;
- Ensuring satisfactory compliance in your work with respect to health and safety, ethical requirements etc;
- Identifying other research project opportunities and directions as they arise, and assist in the writing of grant proposals;
- Be involved in the assessment of student knowledge as well as the supervision of projects and helping to develop student research skills;
- Contributing to the supervision of PhD students as required;
- Where there is the opportunity, contribute to teaching activity, for example by undertaking lectures, tutorials and/or seminars. Develop and update the



content of these sessions ensuring an integration of current research into teaching;

- Carrying out any other duties associated with the post as may arise from time to time.

These duties provide a framework for the role and should not be regarded as a definitive list. Other reasonable duties may be required consistent with the grade of the post.

What will you bring to the role?

As a Research Fellow you will have:

- A degree and PhD (or close to completion) in climate science, philosophy of science or a closely allied discipline;
- Willingness and aptitude to become proficient in new areas;
- Demonstrable potential to contribute to this challenging and interdisciplinary research project;
- Ability to attain research objectives and conduct individual and collaborative research using new research techniques and methods;
- Demonstrated ability to work independently and to efficiently and reliably generate high quality research outputs;
- Good time management and planning skills, with the ability to meet tight deadlines and work effectively under pressure;
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills including presentation skills and the ability to communicate effectively with a wide range of stakeholders;
- Demonstrable potential for publishing papers in leading academic journals;
- Proven ability to manage competing demands effectively, responsibly and without close support;
- A proven ability to work well both individually and in a team;
- A strong commitment to your own continuous professional development.

You may also have:

- A track record of successful, high quality, publications.



How to apply

You can apply for this role online; more guidance can be found on our [How to Apply](#) information. Applications should be submitted by 23.59 (UK time) on the advertised closing date.

Your application should include:

- a **supporting statement** evidencing how you believe your existing knowledge and experience equips you to carry out the role;
- a copy of your **curriculum vitae** giving full details of qualifications and experience;

Contact information

To explore the post further or for any queries you may have, please contact:

Professor Suraje Dessai, Chair in Climate Change Adaptation

Tel: +44 (0) 113 343 0116

Email: s.dessai@leeds.ac.uk

Professor David Stainforth

Tel: +44 (0) 207 955 7622

Email: D.A.Stainforth@lse.ac.uk

Additional information

Find out more about the [Faculty of Environment](#).

Find out more about [Athena Swan](#) in the Faculty.

Find out more about our [School](#).

Find out more about our [Research and associated facilities](#).



Working at Leeds

You can find out more about our generous benefits package and more about what it is like to work at the University and live in the Leeds area in our [Working at Leeds](#) information.

Candidates with disabilities

Information for candidates with disabilities, impairments or health conditions, including requesting alternative formats, can be found in our [Accessibility](#) information or by getting in touch with us at disclosure@leeds.ac.uk.

Criminal record information

Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974

A criminal record check is not required for this position, however, all applicants will be required to declare if they have any 'unspent' criminal offences, including those pending.

Any offer of appointment will be in accordance with our Criminal Records policy. You can find out more about required checks and declarations on our [Criminal Records](#) information page.

