



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

CANDIDATE BRIEF

Research Fellow in Urban Food Systems, School of Food Science & Nutrition, Faculty of Environment



Salary: Grade 7 (£33,199 – £39,609 p.a.)

Reference: ENVFS1000

Closing date: 19 September 2019

Fixed-term for 6 months

We will consider job share / flexible working arrangements

Research Fellow in Urban Food Systems

Global Food and Environment Institute

Do you have a track record of systems research? Would you like to apply your skills to increase understanding of the urban food system? Would you like to work with regional stakeholders and researchers from a range of disciplines?

The [Global Food and Environment Institute](#) at the University of Leeds aims to find long-lasting solutions to global challenges in food and nutrition security. More than 50% of the human population is now living in urban areas. There is an urgent need to understand the resilience of the urban system to inform urban planning and decision-making. This project aims to assess the Leeds food system using existing and new data on food production, consumption and waste. You will engage with a range of stakeholders from the public and private sector to make an initial assessment of the Leeds urban system and identify critical points for intervention.

You will have a PhD or equivalent in Biological or Environmental Sciences, Data Science, or a closely allied discipline. You will also have a strong background in Resource Efficiency and Systems Thinking alongside experience in engaging a variety of stakeholders within and outside academia. With strong time management and planning skills, you will have the ability to meet tight deadlines, manage competing demands and work effectively under pressure without close support.

What does the role entail?

As a Research Fellow, your main duties will include:

- The use of an ecological approach to assess the inter-relationships within the Leeds urban food system to help design potential interventions to optimise it for the benefit of citizens, environment, local community and regional economy;
- Generating and pursuing independent and original research ideas in resource management;
- Developing research objectives and contributing to setting the direction of the research project and team;
- Contribute to the preparation of proposals for funding in collaboration with colleagues;
- Evaluating methods and techniques used and results obtained by other researchers and to relate such evaluations appropriately to your own work;



- Preparing papers for publication in leading international journals and disseminating research results through other recognised forms of output;
- Working both independently and also as part of a larger team of researchers, engaging in knowledge-transfer activities where appropriate and feasible;
- Maintaining your own continuing professional development and acting as a mentor to less experienced colleagues as appropriate;
- Support the organisation and facilitation of stakeholder engagement events.
- Contributing to the training of both undergraduate and postgraduate students, including assisting with the supervision of projects in areas relevant to the project.

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 PhD or equivalent in Biological or Environmental Sciences, Data Science, or a closely allied discipline;
- A strong background in Resource Efficiency and Systems Thinking;
- Experience in engagement of a variety of stakeholders relevant to the post within and outside academia, analysis of stakeholder workshop data and reporting back to stakeholders in a timely manner;
- Good time management and planning skills, with the ability to meet tight deadlines, manage competing demands and work effectively under pressure without close support;
- A proven track record of peer-reviewed publications in high impact factor journals;
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills including presentation skills;
- 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:

- Experience of pursuing external funding to support research;
- Experience in geographical regional resource efficiency mapping.



How to apply

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

Contact information

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

[Dr Caroline Orfila](#), Associate Director of the Global Food and Environment Institute

Tel: +44 (0)113 343 2966

Email: C.Orfila@leeds.ac.uk

Additional information

Find out more about the [Faculty of Environment](#) and the [School of Food Science and Nutrition](#).

A diverse workforce

The Faculty of Environment is proud to have been awarded the [Athena SWAN Bronze Award](#) from the Equality Challenge Unit, the national body that promotes equality in the higher education sector. Our [equality and inclusion webpage](#) provides more information.

Working at Leeds

Find out more about the benefits of working at the University and what it is like to live and work in the Leeds area on our [Working at Leeds](#) information page.

Candidates with disabilities

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



Criminal record information

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

