



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

CANDIDATE BRIEF

**Research Fellow in Climate Services and Stakeholder Engagement
School of Earth and Environment, Faculty of Environment**



Salary: Grade 7 (£33,797 – £40,322)

Reference: ENVEE1399

Fixed-term until 31 Nov 2021

Job share and flexible working arrangements will be considered

Research Fellow in Climate Services and Stakeholder Engagement

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 services? Do you want to further your career in one of the UK's leading research intensive Universities?

An exciting opportunity has arisen for a researcher to conduct research on stakeholder engagement, assessment of user requirements, and co-development of climate services for agriculture in the Mediterranean region. This position is funded by Horizon 2020 as part of the project MED-GOLD - 'Turning climate-related information into added value for traditional MEDiterranean Grape, OLive and Durum wheat food systems'.

The MED-GOLD project aims to co-develop (between scientists and stakeholders operating in the agricultural sector) climate services for olive, grape, and durum wheat crop systems that are the basis for producing olive oil, wine and pasta.

This post is based in Leeds and will involve coordinating and developing activities to engage communities (stakeholders and other potential users in the agriculture sector) in Europe. Tasks will include managing a community of stakeholders, the development and implementation of a survey, the management of an online forum, and running participatory workshops. All of these activities aim to engage scientists with stakeholders in order to co-validate, co-exploit and co-assess the usability and value of the climate services being developed within MED-GOLD.

In addition, you will contribute to other project tasks including supporting the assessment of the benefits of the climate services developed within the project. This role will involve close collaboration with project partners as well as interaction and engagement with external organisations.

The post-holder will be hosted by the Climate Change Adaptation, Vulnerability and Services Group lead by Prof. Suraje Dessai and Prof. James Ford and based at the Sustainability Research Institute. There will also be opportunities to interact with the Priestley International Centre for Climate and the ESRC Centre for Climate Change Economics and Policy at the University of Leeds.



What does the role entail?

As a Research Fellow, your main duties will include:

Plan and manage your work in collaboration with Dr. Marta Bruno Soares to ensure successful delivery of defined project outputs in keeping with an agreed strategy, including:

- Coordinate and manage a community of stakeholders in the agriculture sector;
- Develop and disseminate an European online survey in close collaboration with other partners in the project;
- Manage an online forum for the MED-GOLD community of stakeholders;
- Prepare and run participatory workshops;
- Carry out empirical work including literature reviews, as directed by the line manager;
- Analyse and interpret the results of research;
- Present at national and international conferences and similar events;
- Prepare, with guidance from the PI, project deliverables and presentations in a timely manner;
- Contribute to the production of project reports and academic publications;
- Balance the competing pressures of research and administrative demands and deadlines;
- Plan and manage your own research activity within the strategy identified for the project team as a whole;
- Ensure satisfactory compliance in your work with respect to health and safety, ethical requirements etc.

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 Research Fellow you will have:

- A degree and PhD (or close to completion i.e: the initial thesis needs to have been handed in at the point of application) in relevant social science discipline;
- A strong background in climate services, climate change, stakeholder engagement, agriculture;
- Quantitative skills: survey development, handling large datasets;
- Qualitative skills: preparing and running participatory workshops;
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills, including a demonstrated capacity to undertake research and write it up in publishable form and an ability to write clearly and accessibly in English for academic and policy audiences;
- Demonstrated experience of conducting research;
- Good time management and planning skills, with the ability to meet tight deadlines and work effectively under pressure and without close support;
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills including presentation skills and the ability to communicate effectively with a wide range of stakeholders;
- Experience of working well both individually and cooperatively in a multidisciplinary team;
- A developing track record of publications and presentations at international conferences;
- A strong commitment to your own continuous professional development;

You may also have:

- Research experience in the field of stakeholder engagement and agro-systems is highly desirable;
- An ability to speak, read and write in either Spanish, Italian, French and/or Portuguese (besides English) is also desirable.

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 **<closing date>**.



Contact information

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

Marta Bruno Soares, Met Office University Academic Fellow

Tel: +44 (0) 7769830846

Email: m.brunosoares@leeds.ac.uk

Additional information

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

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

Working at Leeds

Find out more about the benefits of working at the University and what it's 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 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 in our [Criminal Records information](#).

