UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

CANDIDATE BRIEF

Research Fellows in Climate Change and Food Systems (2 positions), Faculty of Environment



Salary: Grade 7 (£33,797 – £40,322 p.a.)

Reference: ENVEE1496

Two positions available

Fixed-term until 31 March 2022 – due to external funding

We will consider job share / flexible working arrangements

Research Fellows in Climate Change and Food Systems
School of Earth and Environment, Faculty of Environment

Are you an ambitious early-career researcher looking for your next challenge? Do you have a background in climate change, agriculture and food systems? Do you want to further your career in one of the UKs leading research intensive Universities?

These two positions represent an excellent opportunity for early career researchers to work across a variety of ongoing projects on agricultural and food systems transformation in the Global South and gain valuable experience. The research fellows will work with partners in the UK and southern Africa on the design, delivery and dissemination of research on agricultural innovation, the co-production of climate information and services, and social equity and justice. This activity will contribute to outputs and engagements aimed at the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change COP26. The fellows will join an active research group within the School of Earth and Environment and be affiliated with the GCRF-AFRICAP programme (https://africap.info) and the Global Food and Environment Institute (https://www.leeds.ac.uk/global-food-environment-institute).

Through these roles, the fellows will develop professional networks with a wide variety of partners and researchers from across disciplines, build their portfolio of research outputs, participate in a variety of public and policy engagement activities, and have opportunities to gain experience in student education, research grant proposal writing, and more.

What does the role entail?

As a Research Fellow, your main duties will include:

- Contributing to a review of work on the equitable governance of agricultural transformation and the co-production of climate information;
- Working both independently and also as part of a larger team of researchers, engaging in knowledge-transfer activities, including through organising webinars and stakeholder engagement activities, and developing an exhibition;
- Preparing papers for publication in leading international journals and disseminating research results through other recognised forms of output;
- Developing research proposals for funding in collaboration with colleagues;



- Generating and pursuing independent and original research ideas in the appropriate subject area;
- Evaluating methods and techniques used and results obtained by other researchers and to relate such evaluations appropriately to your own work;
- Maintaining your own continuing professional development and acting as a mentor to less experienced colleagues as appropriate;
- 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 near completion - i.e. the initial thesis needs to have been handed in at the point of application in Environment and Development or a closely allied discipline;
- A strong background in knowledge co-production, agricultural climate impacts, and/or environmental governance;
- 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 of research communication and dissemination to non-academic audiences;
- Proven ability to be able to adapt research plans and timings in light of new information and/or wider project changes.





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 Stephen Whitfield, Associate Director of the Global Food and Environment Institute
Tel: +44 (0)113 343 9754
Email: s.whitfield@leeds.ac.uk

Additional information

Please note: If you are not a British or Irish citizen, from 1 January 2021 you will require permission to work in the UK. This will normally be in the form of a visa but, if you are an EEA/Swiss citizen and resident in the UK before 31 December 2020, this may be your passport or status under the EU Settlement Scheme.

Find out more about the School of Earth and Environment

Find out more about the Faculty of Environment

Find out more about our Research and associated facilities.

Find out more about equality in the Faculty.

A diverse workforce
The Faculty of Environment has received a prestigious Athena SWAN silver award from Advance HE, the national body that promotes equality in the higher education sector. This award represents the combined efforts of all schools in the Faculty and shows the positive actions we have taken to ensure that our policies, processes and ethos all promote an equal and inclusive environment for work and study.



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

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 page.



