



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

CANDIDATE BRIEF

Research Fellow in Climate Smart Agriculture (policy), Faculty of Environment



Salary: Grade 7 (£32,548 – £38,833 p.a.)

Reference: ENVEE1209

Closing date: 7 December 2017

Interviews are expected to be held on Monday 18 December 2017

Fixed term until 31 December 2021 (external funding)

Research Fellow in Climate Smart Agriculture (policy) School of Earth and Environment, Faculty of Environment

Are you an ambitious researcher looking for your next challenge? Do you have a background in environmental social sciences related to policy and governance? Do you want to further your career in one of the UK's leading research intensive Universities?

GCRF-AFRICAP is a new programme of work funded by the UK government aimed at establishing academic partnerships between UK and African research and policy institutions and developing capacity across these partnerships in the field of climate smart agriculture. It is driven by an aim to build capacity for, co-develop and demonstrate, nationally owned SDG-compliant agri-food development pathways that can be productive, sustainable and climate-smart.

The University of Leeds, along with University of Aberdeen, Chatham House, UK Meteorological Services and the Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources Policy Analysis Network (FANRPAN) have been awarded a significant grant to develop a programme of research and training activities in eastern and southern Africa. These activities will cross relevant disciplines inclusive of agronomic, climate, social and ecological sciences, and particular emphasis will be placed on building capacities for research to directly inform policy (working through FANRPAN's extensive networks in the region).

We hope to partner with Met Services, agricultural research organisations and universities in Tanzania, Malawi, Zambia and South Africa in several ways: running and providing bursaries for African and UK scholars to attend bespoke research training courses; jointly developing and running research projects; and developing and disseminating research outputs through joint research-policy forums. Some of these activities will see African scholars invited to participate in training programmes in the UK and others will involve Africa-based laboratory and field-work, as well as participation in regional workshops.



What does the role entail?

As Research Fellow, your main duties will include:

- Working with and in support of [Dr Claire Quinn](#) on GCRF-AFRICAP to ensure the policy facing aspects of the project is successfully completed;
- Contributing to research design and methodological development in collaboration with Dr Claire Quinn, [Dr Stephen Whitfield](#), [Prof Tim Benton](#) and project collaborators in [Chatham House](#), [FANRPAN](#) and in the four study countries;
- Evaluating methods and techniques used and results obtained by other researchers and to relate such evaluations appropriately to your own work;
- Planning and managing your own research activity within the strategy identified for GCRF-AFRICAP as a whole, including undertaking fieldwork in Malawi, Zambia, Tanzania and South Africa as appropriate, focused particularly on policy analysis, design and evaluation, including participatory and collaborative working with policy makers;
- Working with Dr Claire Quinn and others to lead the analysis and interpretation of research data and draw conclusions on the outcomes;
- Contributing to and leading research papers for publication in leading international journals;
- Contributing to data management within the project and preparing, with guidance, other project deliverables and presentations in a timely manner;
- Playing a key role in fostering the wider dissemination and impact of research findings, including actively engaging in knowledge exchange activities and assisting in the co-ordination and facilitation of workshops, dialogues and other activities across sub-Saharan Africa;
- Actively participating in the Environment and Development Research Group, and the Sustainability Research Institute (SRI);
- Contributing to the training of both undergraduate and postgraduate students, where appropriate, including assisting with the supervision of projects in areas relevant to GCRF-AFRICAP.

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 first degree in an environmental and/or development studies discipline and be close to completing or have successfully completed a PhD in Environment and Development and/or international policy, or closely allied discipline;
- Demonstrable experience in policy analysis and evaluation;
- Experience of and willingness to undertake fieldwork in sub-Saharan Africa;
- Experience in using participatory approaches at a policy level, and in qualitative methods for analysis;
- A developing track record of peer-reviewed publications in leading academic journals;
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills, including presentation skills, and the ability to communicate effectively with a wide range of stakeholders;
- Demonstrated experience of conducting research and ability to lead and deliver on key research tasks;
- Ability to work flexibly, both as part of a team and independently, with proven ability to manage competing demands effectively, responsibly and without close support;
- Ability to meet tight deadlines, to work accurately and carefully within necessary budgets, maintaining a professional approach to all aspects of the role.

You may also have:

- A proven ability to be able to adapt research plans and timings in light of new information and/or wider project changes;
- Expertise and experience in working with interpreters.

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.



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:

Dr Claire Quinn

Tel: +44 (0)113 343 8700

Email: c.h.quinn@leeds.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 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.

