JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Title: Research Fellow Indigenous Peoples' Food Systems

Grade: AC2

Department: Faculty of Engineering & Science, NRI - Livelihoods and Institutions Department

Responsible to: Professor of Economics

Responsible for: N/A

Key Contacts: IP-STAT Principal Investigator and co-investigators; NRI/ LID Head of Department and colleagues; indigenous Peoples' organizations, community partners and research collaborators in Ghana, Tanzania, Uganda, Peru, Nepal, India, Sri Lanka and Kyrgyzstan.

Standard Occupational Classification (SoC Code): TBC

Non-Contractual Nature of Role Profile: This role profile is non-contractual and provided for guidance. It will be updated and amended from time to time in accordance with the changing needs of the University and the requirements of the job.

PURPOSE OF ROLE

The main purpose of the role is to conduct high-quality research on Indigenous Peoples' Food systems within the ERC-funded IP-STATS project.

Working under the direction of the Principal Investigator and in equitable partnership with Indigenous Peoples' Organisation and communities, the post-holder will contribute specialist food systems, nutrition and/or public health expertise to the construction, collection, analysis, interpretation and communication of quantitative evidence. The role will examine food systems holistically, including relationships among food sovereignty, health, nutrition, livelihoods, culture, environment and self-determination.

The person appointed will be expected to:

- Undertake independent and collaborative research on Indigenous Peoples' food systems, nutrition and/or public health, using culturally grounded quantitative, qualitative or mixed methods and contributing to the research profile of the Natural Resources Institute and to relevant future REF submissions.
- Work with international collaborators and Indigenous partners to identify priority food systems questions and the limitations and cultural biases of existing nutrition, health, agriculture and food-systems indicators.
- Co-develop an Indigenous Peoples' food systems quantitative research agenda and contribute food systems expertise to a practical toolkit for epistemically diverse and rights-respecting quantitative research cycles.
- Support the ethical piloting and refinement of food systems research approaches and toolkit components with Indigenous and non-Indigenous partner organisations in Ghana, Tanzania, Uganda, Peru, Nepal, India, Sri Lanka and Kyrgyzstan.

KEY ACCOUNTABILITIES

Team Specific:

- Lead and contribute to original research on Indigenous Peoples' food systems, nutrition and public health, resulting in high-quality academic and community-relevant outputs.
- Contribute to the research profile of NRI/LID and to relevant future REF submissions through rigorous, ethical and impactful research.
- Provide intellectual leadership and day-to-day scientific direction for agreed research activities within the ERC-funded IP-STATS project, under the leadership of Dr Pamela Katic as Principal Investigator.
- Support the critical review and mapping of food systems, nutrition and public-health evidence, indicators and conceptual frameworks relevant to Indigenous Peoples.
- Co-design food systems research questions, conceptual frameworks, indicators and methods with Indigenous partners, recognising Indigenous Peoples' authority over their food systems, data, knowledge and representation.
- Work closely with the project's data governance specialist to ensure that food systems research protocols respect collective and individual consent, data sovereignty, confidentiality, intellectual and cultural property, benefit sharing, attribution, and community decisions about reuse and dissemination.
- Plan and undertake culturally grounded quantitative, qualitative and participatory food systems research, which may include dietary, nutrition, health, livelihood, food-environment or food-sovereignty assessment, partner engagement, workshops and field activities.
- Contribute specialist food systems, nutrition and/or public-health expertise to the design, documentation, piloting and evaluation of the IP-STATS toolkit for gathering, governing, analysing, managing and using quantitative food-systems data.
- Coordinate effectively with partner organisations across Ghana, Tanzania, Uganda, Peru, Nepal, India, Sri Lanka and Kyrgyzstan, including travel where required and feasible.
- Contribute to ethics applications, safeguarding and risk-management processes, including careful treatment of health, nutrition and other potentially sensitive information, and ensure alignment with Indigenous Peoples' protocols, partner agreements, institutional requirements and applicable law.
- Support capacity sharing, mentoring and mutual learning on Indigenous Peoples' food systems and relevant research methods within the interdisciplinary and intercultural project team and with partner organisations.
- Contribute, as appropriate, to funding proposals and partnership development that extend or sustain work related to IP-STATS, in consultation with the Principal Investigator.
- Co-produce and disseminate food systems findings through peer-reviewed publications, conferences, policy fora, community-facing materials and formats agreed with Indigenous partners, respecting collective authorship, attribution, confidentiality and decisions about what knowledge may be shared.
- Build and maintain respectful relationships with Indigenous Peoples' organisations, participating communities, researchers, policy actors and other relevant bodies across the eight project countries.
- Proactively contribute to research group/department/school plans, activities and efficient working practices.
- Promote work conducted under IP-STATS and the work of the University internally and externally.

Generic:

- Assist NRI/LID in achieving relevant Department, Faculty and University objectives and key performance indicators.
- Contribute to department/school plans, activities and efficient working practices.
- Contribute to achieving the University's mission of Education Without Boundaries and values (Inclusive, Collaborative, Impactful) through engagement with University initiatives.

Managing Self:

- Keep abreast of developments within the field and seek continuous improvement of own professional practice.
- Actively participate in established professional development framework activities.
- Behave in a manner which reflects the University values and creates a positive environment for work and study.

Core Requirements:

- Adhere to the University's policies on Equality, Diversity and Inclusion and Information Security.
- Ensure compliance with Health & Safety, Data Protection and Equality Legislation.
- Adhere to the University's Sustainability policies, including the Carbon Management Plan, and carry out duties in a resource efficient way, reflecting the shared responsibility of minimising the University's negative environmental impacts wherever possible.
- Adhere to current legal requirements and best practice relating to digital content and accessibility, including Web Content Accessibility Guidelines when creating digital content.

Additional Requirements:
Undertake any other duties as requested by the line manager or appropriate senior manager, commensurate with the grade of the post.

This is a professional, demanding role within a complex organisation with an ambitious strategic plan and agenda for change. The role holder will be expected to show flexibility in working arrangements, including working hours, to ensure that the IP-STATS project delivers to the funder.

Freedom of speech and academic freedom:
In any matter falling under this job description, the university will have particular regard to, and place significant weight on, the importance of freedom of speech within the law, academic freedom and tolerance for controversial views in an educational context or environment. The University's commitments to freedom of speech and academic freedom are set out in the Freedom of Speech Code of Practice. In the event of any conflict between this job description and the Freedom of Speech Code of Practice, the Freedom of Speech Code of Practice will take precedence.

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS:
Performance Indicators will be established in consultation with the Head of Department/School as part of the post holder's annual Appraisal and Professional Development Review and with due regard to the University's KPIs.

KEY RELATIONSHIPS (Internal & External):
Principal investigator, co-investigators, NRI/ LID Head of Department, external collaborators in the IP-STATS project.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

EXPERIENCE:

Essential Criteria

- A record of independent and collaborative research and original outputs relevant to Indigenous Peoples' food systems, food sovereignty, nutrition, public health and/or related Indigenous Peoples' research methodologies.
- Experience of designing, implementing and analysing culturally grounded food systems, nutrition or public-health research using quantitative, qualitative and/or mixed methods.
- Long-term lived experience that has developed specific, substantive knowledge and understanding of Indigenous Peoples' cultures, rights, priorities and contemporary issues.
- Experience of providing intellectual or methodological direction to food systems, nutrition, public health or closely related research activities, normally within a wider project or under the overall leadership of a principal investigator.
- Experience of communicating research findings to academic and non-academic audiences, including through conferences, symposia, community meetings, policy fora or culturally appropriate knowledge-sharing formats.

Desirable Criteria

- Experience of research or practice involving Indigenous Peoples' organisations, Indigenous Peoples' food or health initiatives, public or cultural bodies, civil society organisations, or relevant professional and policy networks.
- Supervision of student research activities.
- Supervision of postgraduate research students.
- Engagement with national or regional public/cultural sectors/business/industry/professional bodies in respect of research.

SKILLS:

Essential Criteria

- Demonstrated ability to communicate effectively, respectfully and inclusively with Indigenous Peoples' communities and organisations, including across cultural, linguistic and institutional contexts.
- Ability to work independently and as part of interdisciplinary and intercultural teams, including across countries, time zones and different knowledge traditions.
- Excellent written and oral communication skills, with the ability to make food systems, nutrition or public-health research meaningful and accessible to community, policy, practitioner and academic audiences.
- Outstanding organisational, digital communication and interpersonal skills, with the ability to coordinate multiple relationships and activities with care, reliability and cultural humility.

Desirable Criteria

- N/A

QUALIFICATIONS:

Essential Criteria

- PhD (or equivalent doctoral qualification) in nutrition, public health, food systems, food or nutrition science, epidemiology, agriculture, anthropology, Indigenous studies, geography, development studies, or another field directly relevant to the role.

Desirable Criteria

- Relevant training or demonstrated expertise in Indigenous Peoples' food systems, Indigenous Peoples' research methodologies, community-based participatory research, dietary assessment, nutritional epidemiology and/or food systems analysis.

PERSONAL ATTRIBUTES:

Essential Criteria

- We are looking for people who can help us deliver the values of the University of Greenwich: Inclusive, Collaborative and Impactful.

Desirable Criteria

- N/A