

JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Title:	Environmental Scientist (Ecosystem Services)	Grade: AC3	Job Reference No:
Department:	Natural Resources Institute Agriculture, Health and Environment	Date of Job Evaluation:	
Role reports to:	Head of Department		
Direct Reports	To be confirmed		
Indirect Reports:	Ecosystem Services Research Group		
Other Key contacts:	Sustainable Agricultural Intensification Programme		

PURPOSE OF ROLE:

We are looking to contract a new researcher and lecturer in the area of Ecosystem Services focusing on the interface between agriculture and environment to work within Ecosystem Services Research Group and support our environment, agriculture and biology teaching programmes.

The candidate will be expected to develop courses for the BSc Environmental Science and Integrated Masters in Biology and coordinate with the leaders of these programmes. The jobholder also provide inputs to the Master's programmes in Sustainable Environmental Management and Sustainable Agricultural Development. In the medium term it is expected to that the candidate will take leadership of one of these teaching programmes.

The candidate will develop research related to the ecological processes at the interface between agriculture and the environment either in temperate or tropical regions. The research focus could be in any aspect of natural capital or ecosystem service provision e.g. supporting services of water and nutrient cycling, regulating services related to hydrology or carbon cycle; of particular importance would be conducting research and consultancy in Life Cycle Assessment.

The candidate will be expected to participate in obtaining funding from academically competitive sources such as the UK Research Councils, engaging development-related funding sources from international donors or foundations. They will be expected to be research active, publishing in international peer review journals. Typically research will be conducted as part of a team both within their own institution and across institutions and countries.

KEY ACCOUNTABILITIES:

The post-holder will work within NRI's Agriculture, Health and Environment Department affiliated to the Ecosystem Service Research group and collaborate with the teaching programme leaders for the BSc Environmental Science and Biology.

The candidate will take a leading role in developing the undergraduate and postgraduate teaching provision in NRI and the Faculty of Engineering and Science. The successful candidate will be also expected to identify and pursue project funding from outside bodies, including research councils, development agencies, businesses and foundations within and outside the UK, with support from senior staff. The successful candidate will be expected to contribute to major projects and programmes once funding has been secured, as well as contributing particular skills to projects led by other NRI staff. The candidate will be expected to build an international academic record through publications in high impact journals.

Team Specific:

1. Contribute to teaching, training and curriculum development for undergraduate and taught postgraduates– specifically preparation and delivery of degree modules in their area of expertise
2. Contribute to major projects managing the work with NRI colleagues and external partners and operational budgets, and ensuring satisfactory delivery of contracted outputs to clients.
3. Develop research projects in Ecosystem Services from agricultural environments.
4. Contribute to NRI's strategic planning in growing teaching income, attainment of high-impact research and development impacts.
5. Identify and secure funding, on a full cost-recovery basis, for major projects in environment and agriculture, complementary to teaching income.
6. Meet agreed personal targets for commissioning and assisting colleagues to meet their targets.
7. Represent NRI to clients, potential clients and partners and where appropriate in the media.
8. Where appropriate, participate in national and international committees, boards and panels on health, development and research issues.
9. Prepare results of NRI research and consultancy programmes for wider communication to different audiences.
10. Publish of results in international peer reviewed journals.
11. Supervise PhD and MSc students.

Generic:

The balance between teaching and research is foreseen as 50% teaching and 50% research; although this may vary according to the success of the post-holder in obtaining funding for research and development activities.

The post-holder should contribute to the development and implementation of a portfolio of internationally excellent teaching and research activities that is financially self-sustaining and contribute to the overall mission of NRI. This will involve partnerships with colleagues inside NRI and the wider university as well as external to the organisation.

Although this post is UK-based, extensive travel to overseas countries, often for extended periods of time, will be an essential element of the job..

The post-holder will be responsible for the effective management of projects and/or teaching programme according to the rules of NRI and the wider university. Coordination with academic and support staff are likely to be important aspects of this post.

The post-holder will represent the Department and the Institute internally and externally and play an active role in the communication of outputs to donors, partners and other interested parties.

The post-holder will work within the Agriculture, Health and Environment Department working closely with the Head of Department and Research Group leaders.

Managing Self:

- Continuously improve own knowledge of people, administrative systems and University working policy
- Maintain own continuous professional development (CPD)
- Continuously strengthen effective interpersonal skills

Core Requirements:

- Adhere to and promote the University's Equality and Diversity policies
- Ensure compliance with Health & Safety regulations
- Support and promote the University's Sustainability policies, including the Carbon Management Plan, and carry out duties in a resource efficient way, recognising the shared responsibility of minimising the university's negative environmental impacts wherever possible

Additional Requirements:

- Any other duties appropriate to the post and grade

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS:

High level of approval in student feedback scores
Production of high quality research outputs and international standard peer reviewed publications
Effectiveness in securing external funding
Meeting agreed personal targets for commissioning
Contribution to NRI's strategic planning

KEY RELATIONSHIPS (Internal & External):

Head of Department and Director
Research Group/Programme Leaders,
NRI academic staff
Project Controllers
Administrative colleagues in NRI
Academic and administrative staff in other Schools and University Departments

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Essential

Experience

- Experience in teaching in their area of expertise at undergraduate level
- Experience in participating in research teams
- Delivery of research outputs and outcomes of internationally recognised level
- Experience in winning research and consultancy projects from development donors, research funders, philanthropic foundations or businesses
- A recent record of publication in international peer-reviewed journals.

Skills

- Excellent communication skills appropriate for a variety of audiences and media
- Experience in designing, securing funding for research or development Projects
- Experience in quantitative analysis and scientific writing

Qualifications

- PhD in ecology, agriculture or environmental science or a closely related discipline

Desirable

Experience

- Experience in postgraduate supervision, teaching and curriculum development in the higher education sector
- Experience in leading environmental research

Skills

- Ability to work in a second international language

Qualifications

Post Graduate Certificate of Education

