

## JOB DESCRIPTION

<b>Job Title:</b>	Research Fellow Ecosystem Services	<b>Grade:</b>	AC2
<b>Department:</b>	Agriculture, Health and Environment	<b>Date of Job Evaluation:</b>	11 March 2019
<b>Role reports to:</b>	Professor Jeremy Haggar		
<b>Direct Reports</b>	None		
<b>Indirect Reports:</b>	Head of Department		
<b>Other Key contacts:</b>	Ecosystem Services Research Group Sustainable Agricultural Intensification Programme		
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 Natural Resources Institute is looking to employ a research fellow in ecosystem services from tropical agriculture to work on the BBSRC-funded project “Sustainability-Intensification Trade-offs in Coffee Agroforestry in Central America”. The project aims to assess the trade-offs between intensifying production, the provision of ecosystem services, and the social and economic sustainability across different coffee production systems. The position will contribute to NRI’s Ecosystem Services Research Group and Sustainable Agricultural Intensification Programme addressing the global challenge to increase food production while conserving the environment through developing sustainable food production systems that build upon ecosystem services, limit green-house gas emissions and biodiversity loss.

The post-holder will develop research related to the ecological processes that affect the sustainability of agricultural production and the trade-offs between productivity and ecosystem services either in Central America. The candidate will complement the skills of the multidisciplinary team of environmental, social and economic researchers contributing to the project. NRI has a strong tradition of multi-disciplinary research to more effectively address real development challenges associated with Sustainable Agricultural Intensification, and within which the post-holder will have the opportunity to collaborate.

The candidate will be expected to be research active, publishing in international peer review journals. They will also be expected to contribute to funding applications from academically competitive sources such as the UK research councils, Global Challenge Research Fund and other national and international donors or foundations. Typically, research will be conducted as part of a team both within their own institution and across institutions and countries.

### **KEY ACCOUNTABILITIES:**

#### **Team Specific:**

- Assist in the development of methodologies for the quantification of supporting

ecosystem services, i.e. nutrient supply, water availability, and biodiversity, and regulating services, i.e. pest losses, carbon stocks and greenhouse gas emissions, and water yield and quality

- Undertake field research to apply the methods developed in long-term research experiments and on-farm evaluations of coffee agri-systems
- Undertake research collaboratively with research partners in Costa Rica and Guatemala
- Contribute to the efficient managing of the work with NRI colleagues and external partners and operational budgets, and ensuring satisfactory delivery of contracted outputs to clients
- Contribute to NRI's strategic plan on attainment of high-impact research and development impacts
- Contribute to securing funding, on a full cost-recovery basis, for projects in environment and agriculture
- Meet agreed personal targets for commissioning
- Represent NRI to clients, potential clients and partners and where appropriate in the media
- Prepare results of NRI research and consultancy programmes for wider communication to different audiences
- Publish of results in international peer reviewed journals

#### **Generic:**

- While the position is a fixed term the position could be extended dependent on the post-holder obtaining funding for research and development activities
- The position will be a research track position
- The post-holder should contribute to the development and implementation of a portfolio of internationally excellent 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, travel to Central America for up to 50% of time will be an essential element of the job
- The post-holder will assist in the effective management of projects 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 work within the Agriculture, Health and Environment Department working closely with the Ecosystem Services Research Group leader and with the Head of Department

#### **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 policies on Equality and Diversity and Inclusion and Information Security 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:**

- Production of high quality research outputs and international standard peer reviewed publications
- Meeting agreed personal targets for commissioning
- Contribution to NRI's strategic plan

**KEY RELATIONSHIPS (Internal & External):**

- Research Group Leader
- Head of Department
- NRI Director
- NRI academic staff
- Project Controllers
- Administrative colleagues in NRI
- Academic and administrative staff in other University Departments
- External collaborators on research and enterprise projects

<b>PERSON SPECIFICATION</b>	
<b>Essential</b>	<b>Desirable</b>
<p><b>Experience</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Experience in conducting research in agroecology or ecosystem services related to agricultural systems</li> <li>• Experience in participating in research teams</li> <li>• A recent record of publication in an international peer-reviewed journal</li> </ul> <p><b>Skills</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Excellent communication skills appropriate for a variety of audiences and media</li> <li>• Experience in applying for funding</li> <li>• Experience in quantitative analysis and scientific writing</li> </ul> <p><b>Qualifications</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PhD in ecology, agriculture or a closely</li> </ul>	<p><b>Experience</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Experience conducting research in a tropical country, preferably in Latin America</li> <li>• Experience in developing their own research project including conceptualization of the problem, design of research, application for funding, execution of project, and publication of results</li> </ul> <p><b>Skills</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Working knowledge of Spanish</li> </ul> <p><b>Qualifications</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• N/A</li> </ul>

<p>related discipline</p> <p><b>Personal attributes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We are looking for people who can help us deliver the <a href="#">values</a> of the University of Greenwich: Excellence, Determination, Inclusivity, Ambition and Creativity</li> </ul>	<p><b>Personal attributes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>N/A</li> </ul>
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