



Job Description

This form summarises the purpose of the job and lists its key tasks. It is not a definitive list of all the tasks to be undertaken as those can be varied from time to time at the discretion of the School, in consultation with the postholder.

Job title: Research Officer (Post-Doctoral Researcher) - Climate Adaptation, Resilience and Flood Risk Management

Department/Division: Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment
Accountable to: Dr Swenja Surminski

Job Summary

The Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment is pleased to invite applications to the above post, which is at the postdoctoral level. The successful applicant will collaborate with Dr Swenja Surminski and conduct research under the Zurich Flood Resilience Alliance (ZFRA). This collaborative project focuses on building resilience to flooding at a community level, aimed at promoting transformative change, impact, and knowledge generation and dissemination through leading long-term partnerships. The members of the Floods Resilience Alliance provide a representative and credible critical mass of expertise across sectors and geographies to demonstrate, inform, and inspire stakeholders and decision-makers globally to invest in floods resilience. In the first phase of ZFRA community programs in 6 countries were established, reaching more than 146,000 people across 131 communities, providing them with support ranging from better response mechanisms. GRI/LSE is a research partner in this global flood resilience program and will work closely with the other ZFRA members to enhance public policy and resilience decision-making by conducting research about resilience incentives and risk governance. The appointee is expected to take a leading role in initiating and conducting a case-study on urban resilience within an OECD setting. Of particular interest are an analysis of potential catalysts for urban resilience decision making, such as the role of land-use, building codes, flood insurance, and other resilience incentives.

Duties and Responsibilities

In playing an important role in fulfilling LSE's leadership in this project, the appointee will be expected to combine research tasks with key administrative responsibilities for the overall project. He or she will join GRI's Adaptation and Sustainable Development team.

Specific responsibilities will include:

- Assessing existing urban resilience decision making approaches in OECD-countries/ non-OECD countries to understand barriers and success factors.
- Close collaboration with academic and non-academic project partners to assess evidence from community engagement in the first phase of ZFRA.
- Supporting validation of flood resilience measurement framework developed under phase 1 of ZFRA.
- Conducting literature reviews.
- Demonstrating and communicating knowledge of theory, methods and practice in the area of flood risk management and risk governance.



- Managing case study partners and administering implementation of case study.
- Collaborating on writing and publishing academic papers and other outputs such as Policy Briefs and Working Papers.
- Participating, as appropriate, in internal and external meetings, and brainstorming sessions.
- Leading on organising relevant events, such as meetings and small workshops.
- Liaising closely between GRI and the wider ZFRA project partners.
- Conveying highly technical analysis, often to a non-specialist audience.
- Traveling for work (data collection, collaboration, field-work implementation and supervision) overseas on a regular basis during the project duration.

All of the above subject to the contractual obligations imposed by the funding agency and with the agreement of the supervisor and Institute Directors.

The appointee will be expected to play an active intellectual part in the project itself and be able to produce independent original research.

Note

The LSE has a progressive pay structure that rewards you with annual pay increases up to a certain level as you develop in your role. We also provide for further reward past this point in the form of further pay increases based on exceptional performance.

Flexibility

To deliver services effectively, a degree of flexibility is needed, and the post holder may be required to perform work not specifically referred to above.

Equality and Diversity

To uphold the School's commitment to equality of respect and opportunity, as set out in the [Ethics Code](#), we will treat all people with dignity and respect, and ensure that no one will be treated less favourably because of their role at the School, age, sex, disability, gender identity, race, religion or belief, sexual orientation, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, or social and economic background. For the full Equity, Diversity and Inclusion policy statement, please see the [EDI website](#)

Environmental Sustainability

The post holder is required to minimise environmental impact in the performance of the role, and actively contribute to the delivery of the LSE Environmental Policy.