

## Research Associate

### Project: Clean Cooking and Agroforestry: A Dual Strategy for Climate Action and Health in Kenya

Job Ref: REQ260270

**STEER summary:** [STEER | Loughborough University](#)

The mission of the Loughborough Centre for Sustainable Transitions: Energy, Environment and Resilience (STEER Centre) is to accelerate the transition to inclusive, sustainable and resilient energy systems through innovative research, analysis and capacity building. The STEER Centre sits within the Department of Geography and Environment in the School of Social Sciences and Humanities and has an extensive portfolio of cross-cutting and multi disciplinary projects.

**Project Description:** The successful candidate will support delivery of the **Clean Cooking and Agroforestry: A Dual Strategy for Climate Action and Health in Kenya** Project funded by the Wellcome Trust, and recently awarded to Loughborough's School of Sport Exercise and Health Sciences and Centre for Sustainable Transitions: Energy, Environment and Resilience ([STEER](#)). The Loughborough workpackage forms part of a consortium led by CIFOR-ICRAF with partners APHRC and GAMOS East Africa. The post holder will be part of the STEER team and will be line managed by the project co-investigator Dr Sarah Wykes.

## Job Description

**Job Family and Grade:** Specialist and Supporting Academic Grade 6

### Job Purpose

The post will primarily support Work Package (WP) 1 of the **Clean Cooking and Agroforestry: A Dual Strategy for Climate Action and Health in Kenya**, which will develop holistic, end-user demand-driven clean cooking and agro-forestry interventions including financing models support the project's randomised control trial (RCT) in WP 2. WP1 will use the Energy Delivery Models (EDM) inclusive design approach and will also involve micro demonstration of interventions alongside the RCT.

10 days a year of the position is reserved for training and professional development.

### Job Duties

- Conduct research and analysis as required by for the EDM design process. This could include leading or contributing to literature reviews, primary data collection through key informant interviews, focus group discussions, and household surveys etc.
- Produce research papers suitable for publication in high quality academic journals.
- Produce or contribute to project knowledge products and policy briefings.
- Travel for fieldwork if and when required, including for EDM training.
- Participate in project team meetings and related activities as required, including keeping records of meetings and writing project reports.
- Maintain and build EDM/LU team relationships with existing collaborators and new collaborators.
- Contribute to project promotion and public engagement events.
- Maintain confidentiality at all times and ensure that intellectual property (IPR) agreements are not violated.
- Follow agreed ethical protocols when undertaking research.
- Undertaken other duties as may be reasonably requested and that are commensurate with the nature and grade of the post.

## Points To Note

The purpose of this job description is to indicate the general level of duties and responsibility of the post. The detailed duties may vary from time to time without changing the general character or level of responsibility outlined in the document.

## Organisational Responsibility

Reports to the: Senior Research Associate in Energy Planning, STEER Centre

## Person Specification

Your application will be assessed based on the essential and desirable criteria listed below.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to explicitly demonstrate how they meet each essential (and desirable) criteria at the application stage. The criteria that you need to demonstrate in your application will be listed as Stage 1 in the table below.

Stages of assessment are as follows:

- 1 – Criteria measured at Application
- 2 – Criteria measured at Test/Assessment Centre/Presentation
- 3 - Criteria measured at Interview

### Essential Criteria:

Area	Criteria	Stage
Experience	Background in a relevant field (e.g. energy access, energy planning, humanitarian energy, renewable energy, clean cooking, international development policy and programming, global public health)	1,2,3
	Experience of working and/or conducting cross-disciplinary research in the Global South and a demonstrable understanding of electricity and clean cooking access, and gender equality, disability and social inclusion (GEDSI) issues	1,2,3
	Authoring original work for academic journal papers, conference papers or technical reports	1,3
	Authoring policy briefs, knowledge products and other learning outputs	1,3
	Experience of interacting with diverse stakeholders including government/private sector/civil society/communities and developing strong relationships with partners and stakeholders.	1,2,3
	Experience in developing/contributing to planning for a team/workstream/project.	1,3
Skills and abilities	Excellent knowledge of qualitative and quantitative research approaches (data collection and analysis) working with diverse stakeholders.	1,3
	Good written and oral communication skills.	1,3
	Self-motivated with ability to meet deadlines.	1,3
	Able to manage time and task effectively to meet project deadline and prioritise workload with minimum supervision.	1,3
	Able to build and maintain effective working relationships with academic colleagues, students, and external partners to support collaborative research and communication of findings.	1,3

	Ability to write project reports and make technical presentations to industrial and academic research groups	1,3
	Ability to write policy reports	1,3
Training	Demonstrate evidence of having undertaken relevant, non-academic training	1,3
Qualifications	PhD (or near completion) in relevant field	1
Other	Willingness to travel on behalf of the project to Kenya	1,3
	Uphold and actively contribute to the University's commitment to Equity, Diversity and Inclusion.	1,3

#### Desirable Criteria:

Area	Criteria	Stage
Experience	Experience of energy or development planning	1,3
	Experience of working with organisations outside academia	1,3
	Experience of working in health or agro-forestry sectors	1,3
	Experience of contributing to project promotion and public engagement events	1,3

## Conditions of Service

The appointment will be subject to the [University's Terms and Conditions of Employment](#) relevant to the job grade.

## Shared University Responsibilities

As a member of the Loughborough community, you are expected to:

- Take reasonable care of yourself, others and the environment, and to prevent harm by your acts or omissions. All staff are therefore required to adhere to the University's Health, Safety and Environmental Sustainability Policies & Procedures.
- Support and contribute to the University's commitment to principles of equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI) while carrying out all duties, behaving in a manner that treats others with dignity and respect and upholds every persons right to lawful freedom of expression, freedom of speech and academic freedom. Further information about EDI at Loughborough and our strategic aims is available on our website.

## Our Purpose, Vision, and Values

Our purpose, Vision and Values underpin all that we do and shape how we work together at Loughborough.

We're proud to promote our values: **Adventurous, Collaborative, Creative, Authentic** and **Responsible**. Our people bring these values to life every day, and they are central to the positive and supportive culture that makes Loughborough unique.

If you join us, you'll be encouraged to bring these values to life in your own work and contribute to the positive, supportive culture that makes Loughborough unique.

Read more about our [vision and values](#).

## Our Accreditations



We strive to create a culture that supports equality and celebrates diversity throughout the campus. The University holds a [Bronze Athena SWAN award](#) which recognises the importance of support for women at all stages of their academic career.



We are proud to be a [Race Equality Charter Member](#). The Charter aims to improve the representation, progression and success of all minority ethnic staff and students within higher education and address issues of racism within higher education institutions (HEIs).



We are proud to be a Disability Confident Employer and have adopted a proactive approach to employing disabled people and to creating a more diverse workforce. We ensure that our recruitment processes are inclusive and accessible. We guarantee to offer an interview to all applicants who have declared themselves with a disability, provided they meet the essential criteria for a role. We proactively anticipate and provide reasonable adjustments and support existing employees who acquire a disability or long-term condition to thrive in the workplace.



We are a real living wage employer, and our Living Wage Employer Mark shows our commitment to paying our staff according to the cost of living.



We are proud supporters of the [City of Sanctuary movement](#) and delighted to be recognised as a University of Sanctuary. This national network brings together, university staff, lecturers, academics and students, who together work to make Higher Education institutions place of safety, solidarity and empowerment for people seeking sanctuary.

**As part of the University's ongoing commitment to redeployment, please note that this vacancy may be withdrawn at any stage of the recruitment process if a suitable redeployee is identified.**