

JOB DESCRIPTION Postdoctoral Research Associate Vacancy Ref: A2043

Present Grade: 6

Department/College: Entrepreneurship, Strategy and Innovation, Management School

Directly responsible to: Professor Nigel Lockett

Supervisory responsibility for: N/A

Other contacts

Internal: Other staff members within the project team in Lancaster and Ghana, colleagues within the Lancaster University Management School (LUMS), Lancaster Environment Centre (LEC), LU Ghana and other project stakeholders

External: Entrepreneurs, SMEs, researchers, policymakers, government departments, local government authorities, research and funding bodies

Major Duties:

This new high profile role will be an important member of the research team for the £6.8M RECIRCULATE project funded by Research Councils UK through the Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF).

GCRF funding over 4 years will support new partnership-based approaches to enable West African researchers to grow transformational impact through (i) working with, in and for their communities and (ii) developing robust, durable and equitable partnerships with UK researchers. RECIRCULATE is a collaboration between Lancaster University (LUMS LEC, Engineering and Biomedical & Life Sciences), LU Ghana, CSIR Ghana, and University of Benin, with phased expansion to other partners in Kenya, Malawi, Zambia and Botswana.

The post holder will play a leading role in Work Package 1: *Entrepreneurship and Innovation* to address the core research question: What is the optimum 'ecosystem' for African research institutions to work with, in and for their communities? This will involve investigating: innovation and entrepreneurial capabilities to exploit STEM research; key change makers in different African contexts; whether UK SME-focused concepts translate into the West African context; how programmes can be developed to support knowledge transfer and exchange. The projects will also involve delivering an 'escalator of training and capacity building activities. STEM work packages include: Water for sanitation and health (WP2); Water for food production (WP3); Water for energy production (WP4); Water pathogens and health (WP5).

Research

- To take a lead in undertaking research in the areas of knowledge exchange, innovation, networks and entrepreneurial learning, in close collaboration with other members of the RECIRCULATE teams, in LUMS and other Lancaster departments, and LU Ghana.
- To contribute fully to the wider activities of the RECIRCULATE project that ensure the integration of research across work-packages, partner organisations and academic disciplines.
- To also support Lancaster-based Residences (6-8 week visits research by colleagues from partner institutions to Lancaster) and Integrating Research Projects (18 month long "mini-projects" co-designed and co-developed with partners, including up to six months working in Lancaster).
- To publish and to work with other academic staff to publish in scholarly journals of international standings.
- To attend and present research and represent the interests of RECIRCULATE and Lancaster University at major national and international conferences.
- To be responsible for the facilitation of an online platform to aid collaboration and communication between multiple stakeholders, internally and externally.
- To collaborate on the identification of research funding which leads to research and impact bids.
- To be an active and enthusiastic member of the Department of Entrepreneurship, Strategy and Innovation and contribute regularly to relevant research seminars and collaborative research activities.

Business Engagement

- To contribute to workshops, training and networking events in the areas of knowledge exchange, innovation, networks and entrepreneurial learning.
- To produce and present materials for recruitment and dissemination to the business community.
- Be aware of the requirements of the funding body and so (i) to collect appropriate documentation as directed (for example, supporting the monitoring and evaluating activities relating to how partners collaborate with business and their wider communities), and (ii) to produce content for project reports, publications, website and social media.

Other Duties

• The appointee will be required to produce relevant documentation/reports in line with requirements of the funding body as directed.