

 **JOB DESCRIPTION**

**Postdoctoral Research Associate**

**Vacancy Ref: \*\*\***

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| **Job Title:** Postdoctoral Research Associate | **Present Grade: 6S** |
| **Department/College:** Lancaster Environment Centre (LEC) |
| **Directly responsible to:** Dr Manoj Roy and Prof Phil Barker (LEC) |
| **Supervisory responsibility for:** N/A |
| **Other contacts** |
| **Internal:**   |
| **External:** Living Deltas Hub’s extended research partners and stakeholders in UK and delta countries. |
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| **Major Duties:** This high profile role will be an important member of the UKRI GCRF Living Deltas Hub exploring social and natural impacts facing three Asian river deltas. The Hub, launched in February 2019, will receive £15.3 million over five years to examine the cultural heritage and livelihood of delta communities (<http://www.livingdeltas.org/>). It is coordinated in Newcastle University by Prof Andy Large and has over 20 partners across the deltas regions and beyond. Its core aim: *a significant contribution to better sustainable development outcomes for developing countries in the region, transforming policy and practice based on new approaches to understanding delta change*. The Hub will address the significant social-ecological challenges currently facing these delta systems in a transdisciplinary manner that responds to the interlinked agenda of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This post, based at Lancaster University, will work closely with a team of PDRAs at partner institutions, to generate a deeper understanding of the patterns and drivers of livelihood shifts, with specific focus on young entrepreneurs’ role in diversifying livelihoods. **Research** * To understand dimensions of and changes to livelihoods practiced in the Ganges-Brahmaputra-Meghna (GBM) delta of Bangladesh and its comparability/ contrast with GBM delta of India and Mekong and Red River Deltas of Vietnam.
* Applying a combination of social science approaches (e.g. longitudinal research diary, daily activity rhythms, key incident interviews and dialogues), to document and analyse livelihood categories and instances/trajectories involving (with potential to involve) young entrepreneurs within the study communities. The researcher will implement an already developed methodology to examine drivers and patterns of shifts and tipping points in delta livelihoods. S/he will gather, process and analyse a large amount of qualitative and quantitative data.
* 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 Living Deltas Hub and Lancaster University at major national and international conferences.
* To contribute fully to the wider activities of the Living Deltas Hub that ensure the integration of research across work-packages, partner organisations and academic disciplines.
* To contribute to the Hub’s Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) data repository and 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 funding opportunities which lead to further research and impact bids.
* To be an active and enthusiastic member of the Living Deltas Hub and contribute regularly to relevant research seminars and collaborative research activities.
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