

SAGES Innovation Programme

Landscapes as Carbon Sinks

Job Title: SAGES Policy Internship

Organization: Landscapes as Carbon Sinks (ECCI, CSFL & Climate KIC) & SAGES

Duration: 6 months, part-time (flexible to fit around academic commitments)

Start date: ~July 2020 (flexible)

Remuneration: up to £8k (dependent on duration)

Travel costs: receipted travel and necessary overnight stays covered

Summary

To deliver an analysis of the potential carbon reduction offered by different options for the transformation of the Scottish Landscape. This analysis should draw-on the system-level analysis being undertaken by the 'Landscapes as Carbon Sinks' team at ECCI and might include, where possible, cause and effect loops.

Background

The 'Landscapes as Carbon Sinks' project is dedicated to supporting the land sector to design its transition to greenhouse gas source to sink. In 2020 the project will be working with the Scottish land sector to explore future options, identify key challenges, and potential levers for change such as: new business models, innovative finance, management approaches or governance systems. In following years, these levers of change will be trialled through a portfolio of projects that will be used to inform land management decisions and shape future policy.

The 'Landscapes as Carbon Sinks' project is a collaboration between the Edinburgh Centre for Carbon Innovation, The Centre for Sustainable Forests and Landscapes, and Climate KIC; and is part of Climate KIC's Deep Demonstration programme. The initiative also draws on the expertise of several European partners: ETH Zurich, INRAE, ONF International, The Nature Conservancy, Wageningen Research, and WWF Landscape Finance Lab.

Aims and Objectives

The role of the SAGES intern will be to help design and then carry-out research to collate and analyse the potential carbon reduction of different options for transformation of the Scottish land sector. These options could be, for example, different land management systems, or new circular bioeconomy supply chains and business models. This would require a strong understand of both the underlying carbon flows from a biological, geophysical, human perspective, and of the application and implications of Scottish Government land use policy.

The primary goals are as follows:

1. Develop a method for categorising, collating, and comparing the potential carbon reduction impact of different options for transformation of the Scottish Landscape.
2. Summarise the potential carbon reduction impact of the different options for transformation of the land sector
3. Conduct a policy analysis to highlight Scottish or UK government policies which either support or block these potential options for transformation

4. Contribute to Scottish Land Sector system mapping analysis and, where possible, account for cause and effect loops in the analysis potential carbon impact

Indicative timeframe for outputs

Data/information collection using literature searches/interviews/working groups/workshops to be completed mid October 2020

First draft report end-October 2020

Circulation to stakeholders for further comments and amendments to be completed mid-November 2020

Incorporation of comments, final draft published by end of November 2020

Person specifications

We are looking for an Early Career Researcher or SAGES Graduate student:

- Either working towards, or has recently completed a PhD
- Knowledge and/or experience of working in a policy environment
- Strong research data collection and synthesis skills.
- Strong communications skills (written and verbal) as post holder will be working with various organisations.
- Independent worker who can plan their own workload and is confident in their ability to deliver a well written report.

How to apply

To apply, please provide a one-page cover letter detailing why you are the right person for this Policy Internship as well as a CV (2 pages maximum) to Rosanna Harvey-Crawford, Innovation Manager, SAGES. Please include one reference that you are happy for us to contact, should you be successful.

r.e.harvey-crawford@ed.ac.uk

Questions can be directed to hester.robertson@ed.ac.uk

Deadline for applications is Friday 26th June, 2020, 17.00hrs

By applying you are confirming that you are available for an interview, via videoconference, on Friday 3rd July 2020