

**Job Title:** Research Associate

**Grade:** 7

**Salary:** £39,355 to £45,413 per annum, pro-rata if part-time

**Department:** School of Geography, Geology and Environment

**Hours/Contract:** Full-time or job share, fixed term contract to 31 January 2028

**Reference:** 11768

## Role Purpose

Part of a team of researchers and will work primarily under the UK Principal Investigator. Responsible for coordinating fieldwork activities over 3 field seasons in Brazil (2025-27) at all sites identified in the workplan, including liaising between other UK PDRAs and Brazilian counterparts, as well as between UK PI and Brazilian PIs/Cols. The researcher will also be responsible for data collection activities, including significant community-based field work in Brazil.

## Main Duties and Responsibilities

### Research

- Co-lead and undertake community-based field work in Brazil over the course of the project
- Lead in the collection, evaluation and interpretation of the research data, specifically leading community focus groups and interviews
- Undertake literature reviews focused on Brazilian bio-economy and resource management
- Contributing, as an experienced researcher, to determining the direction of the programme in line with reaching the research goals. This will include elements of research planning and project management and providing guidance within your expertise to other members of the team.
- Effective liaison and reporting to UK and Brazilian PIs, and project partners, and team members
- Publication of research and presentations at conferences.
- Work with PIs to develop research proposals to continue the research programme

### Professional Development

- Engage in work that supports professional development, including publication, grant proposals, etc.

### Leadership and Citizenship

- Guidance and expertise to other team members supporting Brazilian research staff and students
- Pro-actively build networks and collaborations.
- Providing mentoring and coaching to other researchers on the project.

## Internal and External Relationships

- Regular meetings with members of the programme research group





- Monthly reporting (written and telecon) to partners.
- Regular meetings with partners.
- Contribute to presentations at national and international conferences.
- Liaison with external collaborators.

## Planning and Organising

- Required to effectively manage your time to plan your research activity and to deliver on the priorities of the project:
- Prioritise tasks within agreed work schedules;
- Plan for specific aspects of research incorporating issues such as deadlines, project milestones and overall research aims;
- Adapt daily and weekly plans to accommodate new developments and be flexible to the changing priorities of the research project;

## Qualifications, Knowledge and Experience

### Essential

- PhD or equivalent in Geography, International Development or aligned social science fields (i.e. Sociology, Anthropology, etc)\*
- Knowledge of and significant experience of conducting social science research in Brazil\*
- Proficient in spoken and written Portuguese\*
- Experience writing and contributing to peer-reviewed journal publications\*
- Experience managing research packages/projects beyond PhD
- Experience with and/or willingness to develop new social science research skills, particularly those associated with Participatory Action Research (PAR), Qualitative Comparative Analysis (QCA) and ethnography

## Skills, Abilities and Competencies

### Essential

- Willingness and ability to conduct extended fieldwork in Brazilian Amazon regions of Para, Maranao and Amazonas states\*
- Excellent communication skills – written and verbal evidenced by the ability to communicate complex information in English and Portuguese\*
- Evidence of working effectively as part of a team and the ability to work independently
- Working towards independence and ability to be involved in collaborative research
- Good understanding of Health and Safety and Research Ethics regulations and procedures.

### Desirable

- Budget management skills
- Leadership Skills

***\*Criteria to be used in shortlisting candidates for interview***





## Reason for Fixed Term Contract

The reason for the fixed term contract is stated in section 1.9 in the summary of contractual terms in your contract of employment.

## Criminal Declaration

If you become an employee, you must inform your manager immediately, in writing, if you are the subject of any current or future police investigations/legal proceedings, which could result in a criminal offence, conviction, caution, bind-over or charges, or warnings.

## Supporting University Activities

As a University of Leicester citizen, you are expected to support key university activities such as clearing, graduation ceremonies, student registration and recruitment open days. We expect all staff as citizens to work flexibly across the University if required.

## University Values

**Inclusive** - We are diverse in our makeup and united in ambition. Our diversity is our strength and makes our community stronger.

**Inspiring** - We are passionate about inspiring individuals to succeed and realise their ambitions. We challenge our community to think differently, to get involved, and to constantly embrace new ideas.

**Impactful** - As Citizens of Change we will generate new ideas which deliver impact and empower our community

## Equity and Diversity

We believe that equity, diversity and inclusion is integral to a successful modern workplace. By developing and implementing policies and systems that challenge stereotypes across all aspects of our work, we have a culture that recognises and values the diverse contributions of our staff which benefits everyone. Our strong values of inclusivity and equity support our efforts to attract a diverse range of high quality staff and students, and identify our University as a progressive and innovative workplace that mainstreams equity, diversity and inclusion.

