

APPLY 07/2021

# Research Scholar in Economics of Land-based Mitigation

IIASA INTEGRATED BIOSPHERE FUTURES (IBF) RESEARCH GROUP

VACANCY 07/2021

Formerly known as the [Center for Environmental Resources and Development \(ERD\)](#), the Integrated Biosphere Futures (IBF) Research Group, now part of the new IIASA Biodiversity and Natural Resources (BNR) Program, is offering an opportunity for an applied economist who will work on modeling of global and regional land-based climate change mitigation potentials in the context of sustainable development at the interface between science and policy.

## BACKGROUND:

The IBF Research Group adopts an integrated approach to sustainable land use and ecosystems modeling taking into account *i)* interactions between different economic sectors, including agriculture, forestry, bioenergy, and fisheries, *ii)* synergies and trade-offs between multiple societal objectives, including, but not limited to, GHG emissions and climate change mitigation, climate change impacts and adaptation, food security, sustainable nutrient and water management, and biodiversity, *iii)* across different spatial and temporal scales, going from pixel through the country level up to the global scale, and from annual to a hundred year time horizon.

The group is strongly connected to the international academic community, placing emphasis on transdisciplinary synergies and applied approaches. The work accomplished has long been recognized through regular publications in high-ranking scientific journals, and the team includes several [Top 1% highly cited researchers](#). In addition, IBF is recognized as a reliable partner in support of national policy making and international multilateral processes.

## THE POSITION:

The successful candidate will be modeling the global land use system in the context of ambitious climate stabilization efforts, in line with the Paris Agreement and the Sustainable Development Goals. They will join a team working with the partial equilibrium model [GLOBIOM](#), and further develop and apply this model in the framework of international research and policy projects on the following topics:

- Economic land-based mitigation potentials, incl. biomass for bioenergy
- Interaction between climate change impacts, adaptation and mitigation

- Synergies and trade-offs with the global food system, and with other relevant Sustainable Development Goals around the land-water-energy nexus.

## MAIN TASKS AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Develop new mitigation options and other thematic modules for global or regional analysis in the above domains, incl. data analysis and processing
- Contribute to methodological and structural development of the GLOBIOM model for better integration with Integrated Assessment Models such as those used in IPCC assessments
- Review and implement land-based climate change mitigation policies representation in GLOBIOM, and conduct forward-looking analysis, incl. policy impact assessments
- Publish relevant results in peer-reviewed journals and participate in scientific conferences and workshops
- Contribute to project deliverables, reports, stakeholder communication
- In line with the team spirit that prevails at IIASA, the incumbent may occasionally work on other tasks assigned by their superiors, that might not be directly related to this appointment but where the post holder has relevant experience and skills, and/or a shortage of immediate personnel capabilities requires such.

## QUALIFICATIONS:

- PhD degree, or a master's degree combined with relevant research experience in agriculture or development economics
- Experience with large scale applied economic models, either at sector level or in the general equilibrium framework (proficiency in GAMS advantage)
- Experience with large datasets processing and spatial analysis would be advantageous (R or equivalent)
- Capacity to take upon novel topics and lead them to successful completion within strict timelines
- Demonstrated ability to publish scientific articles and produce policy-relevant reports on model applications
- A degree of flexibility and willingness to travel
- Fluency in English and good presentation skills
- IIASA offers an interdisciplinary and international workplace and the possibility to interact with researchers of different nationalities, with strong ties to a world-wide network of research institutions engaged in environmental systems research. The successful candidate must be able to work in, and have respect for, an intercultural environment.

## APPOINTMENT TERMS

The selected candidate should be available to take up the position in May 2021 or as soon as possible thereafter. We will offer an initial full-time (40 hours per week), fixed term employment contract for three years, with the possibility for extension thereafter. There may be a possibility to consider part-time working hours.

Duties will be carried out at the IIASA premises in Laxenburg, near Vienna in Austria.

This position is classified as a "Scientific level" post.

## WE OFFER:

A minimum gross annual full-time salary of EUR 44,472.00, which is exempt from income tax in Austria.

The advertised salary is:

- Negotiable, based on the qualifications, skills and experience of the selected individual
- Subject to deductions for health insurance and/or social security
- Not directly comparable with other employers in Austria, due to the unique legal status and privileges granted to IIASA
- Subject to the principle of income aggregation (Progressionsvorbehalt in German).

Details about further attractive benefits [here](#).

## About IIASA

IIASA is committed to a working environment that promotes equality, diversity, tolerance and inclusion within its workforce. This is reflected in our [Core Values](#). We encourage qualified candidates, irrespective of gender, from all religious, ethnic, and social backgrounds to apply. In the case that candidates are equally qualified, preference will be given to applicants from countries where IIASA has a [National Member Organization](#) (NMO).

## Further Information

For further information about this opportunity please contact:

[Mr. Michael Le Gohebel](#)

For general information about working at IIASA, please contact:

[Ms. Alia Harrison](#), Recruitment Coordinator

## Applications

To apply for this opportunity, you will need to provide the following documents in English:

- A cover letter outlining your motivation for and fit to the position
- Your Curriculum Vitae or Resume
- Two recent examples of your research work
- The names, addresses (including e-mail), and telephone numbers of two work-related reference givers.

Review of applications will continue until the position has been filled.

Deadline for receipt of applications: Extended - until filled

**APPLY**