

Terms of Reference

Project Researcher

About the Project

Project Title: Leveraging Ecosystem-Based Adaptation and Digital Sensing Technologies to Enhance Climate Resilience and Empower Coastal Communities in Jamaica (CLIMATESCAN)

Funding Agency: Irish Aid- Our Shared Ocean Programme

Project Duration: 36 months

Project Start Date: 1st April 2024

Key Project Collaborators: ATU Sligo, Ireland and The University of the West Indies

Project Brief: The CLIMATESCAN project aims to leverage ecosystem-based adaptation and digital sensing technologies to enhance climate resilience and empower coastal communities in Jamaica. The primary objective of the CLIMATESCAN project is to establish a Coastal City Living Lab (CCLL) in the Falmouth area. The CCLL will serve as a collaborative platform for evaluating the effectiveness of nature-based solutions (NBS) and smart technologies in addressing climate challenges. By bringing together diverse stakeholders, the project aims to foster co-creation and co-learning. The outcomes of the CLIMATESCAN include the development of an integrated coastal zone management framework to strengthen the implementation of NBS. Additionally, the project will establish a monitoring system using smart digital technologies, such as low-cost sensors, to collect real-time data on critical environmental parameters like sea-level fluctuations and erosion patterns. This data will facilitate evidence-based decision-making and adaptive management practices.

Details of Post

Post Title: Project Researcher - Living Labs and Citizen Science

Location: The University of the West Indies, Mona Campus, Jamaica. However, remote or hybrid arrangements for work could be negotiated.

Nature and Duration of Contract: Full-time Fixed Term Contract for 36 months

Contract Start Date: 1st April 2024

Reports to: Dr. Camilo Trench (The University of the West Indies, Mona Campus, Jamaica) & Dr. Deborah Villarroel-Lamb (The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine Campus, Trinidad and Tobago)

Expected Hours per week: 40 hours per week on average

Duties and responsibilities:

The Project Researcher will perform such duties as are assigned by the project management team, including, but not limited to:

- The timely and effective delivery of all assigned research project tasks which can include the collection of field and laboratory data and coastal/marine modelling
- The conducting of research in collaboration with project partners and remaining up to date with the latest research relevant to the project
- The preparation of high impact publications including journal articles, conference presentations and proceedings and other public-facing material
- Contributing ideas and approaches to enhance the project's outcomes
- The establishing and maintenance of positive working relationships with relevant

partners

- The coordination of meetings with project team members, project partners and other stakeholders
- Documenting all methodologies and findings in a clear and organized manner
- The timely submission of all associated project-related reports
- The effective management of resources to assure delivery of project objectives including support with managing aspects of the project expenditure
- Operating within the university's health and safety guidelines
- Any other project-related tasks that are assigned by the project leaders or their nominee.

Education/Training:

The Project Researcher is expected to have:

- At least a Master's degree in one of the following fields: Marine or Coastal Engineering, Physical Oceanography, Physical Geography or any relevant area of Marine Sciences or Engineering or related discipline
- Any relevant training in an area related to the effective execution of project duties such as coastal data collection, coastal/marine modelling or science communication

Required Skills and Experience:

The Project Researcher is expected to have:

- At least 2 years of relevant field and/or laboratory data collection experience in coastal or related areas
- Relevant experience using modelling tools for coastal applications such as GIS modelling or MIKE21
- A good record of relevant publications in peer-reviewed international journals
- Excellent written and oral communication skills including presenting to technical and non-technical audiences
- Proven problem-solving capability illustrating innovative and creative thinking
- Excellent computer literacy skills including using word processing and data analysis tools
- The ability to work in a team environment and independently
- Previous research/experience in Living Labs and Citizen Science

Application Details:

A Curriculum Vitae (CV) and a cover letter should be sent via email only.

Letters should be addressed to:

Dr. Deborah Villarroel-Lamb

Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering

Faculty of Engineering

The University of the West Indies

Email: Deborah.Villarroel-Lamb@sta.uwi.edu

The deadline for applications is at **16:00 (AST)** on **Monday 18th March 2024**.