

Institute for Future Initiatives (IFI), The University of Tokyo

Recruitment Information for Project Researcher/Project Assistant Professor (Fixed-Term)

1. Title and Hiring Number: Project Researcher/Project Assistant Professor (One)
2. Term of Employment: [1 March 2022] to [31 March 2023]; 13 months
3. Renewal of Contract: No
4. Probation Period: 6 months from the date of employment
5. Place of work: Institute for Future Initiatives (IFI), The University of Tokyo
Hongo Campus, 7-3-1 Hongo, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo
6. Experience: Recent PhD graduate or equivalent research experience
7. Work Duties: The successful applicant will conduct research at the interface of neglected and underutilized plant species (NUS), food security, and poverty alleviation. The post is based at IFI, University of Tokyo, in collaboration with WorldFish.

Particular research tasks of the successful applicant will be to:

- Identify and measure the factors affecting the adoption of NUS in Senegal and Burkina Faso.
- Assess the sustainability impacts of NUS (especially related to food security, and poverty alleviation) in Senegal and Burkina Faso
- Design methods to compare findings across study sites, and other published results.
- Case studies will include Senegal and Burkina Faso
- Translate the research outcomes in recommendations for meeting the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Main duties and responsibilities

- Conduct empirical research at the interface of NUS, food security, and poverty alleviation in developing countries
- Design quantitative and qualitative methodologies to collect, analyze, and interpret relevant environmental and socioeconomic data (e.g. through surveys, focus groups, spatial analysis);
- Lead (or contribute to) field campaigns in the study countries
- Analyse primary and secondary data using appropriate computer software, statistical analysis, databases, etc;
- Prepare manuscripts for submission to peer-reviewed journals;
- Supervise, where necessary, research students and field assistants
- Fulfill, where necessary, administrative duties, such as design fieldwork budgets, coordinate with other team members, and manage research funds;
- Liaise with project partners in South Africa, Senegal and Burkina Faso to ensure the smooth operation of collaborative research components;
- Represent IFI at international and national events, increasing the profile of the Institute and the project in the field of Food Security;

While the above list summarises the post-holder's main duties, it is not comprehensive. The post-holder may be required to undertake other duties of similar level and

responsibility within the project and IFI.

8. Working Hours: Discretionary work system for professional work applies.
Working hours will be deemed 7 hours and 45 minutes per day
9. Days off: Saturdays, Sundays, Holidays and the year-end and New Year holidays
(December 29 to January 3)
10. Leave: Annual Paid Leave, Special Leave, etc.
11. Wages: Annual Salary System applies.
Monthly Paid Salary: JPY 300,000 – 350,000 depending on qualifications,
capacity and experience
Commuting Allowance: Depends on home address (up to JPY 55,000)
12. Insurance: The successful applicant will be automatically enrolled in the insurance from
the Mutual Aid Association of MEXT (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports,
Science and Technology) and Employment Insurance.
13. Selection criteria: Essential
- PhD (or equivalent research experience) in Agricultural/Environmental/
Ecological Economics, Development Studies, Sustainability Science or
related subject with good knowledge of economics and/or statistics
 - Experience of data collection, compilation and analysis;
 - Working experience in NUS, agro-diversity and/or agriculture especially
in developing countries
 - Good quantitative skills (especially statistical analysis), and knowledge
of appropriate software
 - Working knowledge of causal inference statistical tests such as
Propensity Score Matching (PSM) or Structural Equation Modelling
(SEM)
 - Demonstrated ability to conduct fieldwork and manage teams of
enumerators in developing countries
 - Good understanding of the SDGs and related targets;
 - Proven skills in writing and publishing papers in leading scientific
journals;
 - A strong publications record in Food Security or related topic;
 - Experience delivering presentations to international audiences;
 - Demonstrated ability to work independently;
 - Excellent leadership, managerial, and communication skills;
 - Excellent working knowledge of English;
 - Willingness to spend prolonged periods of time (~2-3 months per year)
travelling, including to conduct fieldwork in developing countries;
 - Working experience in multi-partner, international and interdisciplinary
projects
 - Willingness to commence work in March 2022.
14. Submission Documents: (a) The University of Tokyo Standard Resume. Downloaded at:
<http://www.u-tokyo.ac.jp/en/about/jobs.html>
(b) Full CV with academic publications
(c) Cover Letter explaining the reasons for applying and the experience
related to the specific post
15. Submission Method: Please apply by email and send all of the above documents to

Dr. Alexandros Gasparatos: gasparatos@ifi.u-tokyo.ac.jp

Please quote “NUS Researcher Application” in all communications

16. Deadline: Friday, 7 January 2022
- Selected applicants will be invited for an in person or Zoom/skype/phone interview soon after the deadline.
17. Name of Recruiter: The University of Tokyo
18. Contact: Institute for Future Initiatives (IFI), The University of Tokyo
7-3-1 Hongo, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo, 113-8654, Japan
- For any questions please contact directly Dr. Alexandros Gasparatos:
gasparatos@ifi.u-tokyo.ac.jp
19. Other
- The selected applicant will be based at the Gasparatos Lab at the Institute for Future Initiatives (IFI). IFI was established in April 2019 to integrate the Policy Alternatives Research Institute (PARI) and the Integrated Research System for Sustainability Science (IR3S) to promote stronger interdisciplinary research and societal collaboration for our future society. The mission of the IFI is to make policy and social recommendations on future society issues and pursues research in collaboration with society toward those ends. It also aims to serve as an international network hub integrating university knowledge related to future society and as a platform for collaborative creation between industry, government, academia, and citizens to provide research-based alternatives for creating our future society and to help develop the human resources necessary to achieve it.
- For more information about the Gasparatos lab refer to:
<http://www.gasparatos-lab.org/>
- For more information about IFI refer to:
<https://ifi.u-tokyo.ac.jp/en/>
- The research will be part of the international and interdisciplinary collaboration with the partners in South Africa, Senegal and Burkina Faso under the JST-funded project FORENS. The projects aims to identify the impacts of NUS in developing countries, and situate the results in the SDG agenda.