

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

Recruitment Information for Project Researcher on Urban Green Spaces (Fixed-Term)

1. Title and Hiring Number: Project Researcher (One)
2. Term of Employment: [1 September 2023] to [31 March 2024] with a subsequent renewal up to 31 March 2025 subject to satisfactory performance
3. Renewal of Contract: The employment contract may be renewed on an academic year basis (from 1 April to 31 March of the following year) depending on the evaluation of work performance. If renewed, the number of renewals shall be one annual, and the maximum period of contract shall be until 31 March 2025.
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 on urban green spaces with particularly focus on geospatial analysis and household surveys with beneficiaries and surrounding residents of green spaces, in collaboration with project partners.

Particular research tasks of the successful applicant will be to:

- Identify and measure the intangible benefits of green spaces with particular focus on aesthetical values and recreation;
- Identify how these intangible benefits affect different constituents of human wellbeing;
- Identify how these intangible benefits are provided and mediated by different components of biodiversity;
- Design methods to compare findings across study sites, and other published results.
- Case studies will include (but are not limited to) green spaces in Tokyo Metropolitan Area
- Translate the research outcomes in recommendations for meeting the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Main duties and responsibilities

- Conduct empirical research at the interface of biodiversity, ecosystem services, and human wellbeing with a specific focus on urban green spaces;
- Design quantitative and qualitative methodologies to collect, analyze, and interpret relevant environmental and socioeconomic data (e.g. through surveys, geospatial analysis);
- Lead (or contribute to) field campaigns in the study green spaces;
- Analyse primary and secondary data using appropriate computer software, statistical analysis, databases, etc;
- Conduct geospatial analysis using different remote sensing products;

- Prepare manuscripts for submission to leading 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 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 biodiversity and ecosystem services;

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 320,000 – 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 Ecological/Environmental Economics, Sustainability Science or related subject with good knowledge of economics, statistics and geospatial analysis
 - Experience of primary and secondary data collection and analysis;
 - Working experience in different social-ecological systems such as urban green spaces, food production landscapes and/or coastal systems;
 - Good quantitative skills (especially statistical analysis), and knowledge of appropriate software;
 - Good working knowledge of statistical tools, and especially causal inference statistical tests such as Structural Equation Modelling (SEM);
 - Good working knowledge of geospatial analysis tools;
 - Demonstrated ability to conduct or manage fieldwork;
 - Good understanding of the SDGs and related targets;
 - Proven skills in writing/publishing papers in leading scientific journals;
 - Experience delivering presentations to national/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 to conduct fieldwork;
 - Working experience in multi-partner and interdisciplinary projects

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 list of academic publications
(c) Cover Letter explaining the reasons for applying and the experience related to the specific post
(d) Names of two referees that can provide information about your research and professional experience and achievements
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 “Urban Green Spaces Project Researcher Application” in all communications
16. Deadline: Friday, 19 May 2023
- 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
Tokyo7-3-1 Hongo, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo, 113-8654, Japan
- For any questions please contact directly Dr. Alexandros Gasparatos: gasparatos@ifi.u-tokyo.ac.jp
19. State of working measures to avoid passive smoking: Smoking is prohibited inside the grounds of our university. We have smoking areas outdoors.
20. 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/>

If you are personally in contract with foreign governmental bodies, corporations or universities, or you are in receipt of a large benefit (financial or any other form) from foreign governmental bodies during the period of your employment, the provisions of the Foreign Exchange and Foreign Trade Act (FEFTA) may prohibit or restrict the sharing of technology that are designated as controlled technology possibly making it difficult for you to fulfill your duties as an academic or administrative staff of the university as a result. Therefore, in such cases it is necessary to keep such contracts/benefits within the scope where it does not hinder the sharing of technologies necessary for your duties by the university.

We welcome proactive application from women in accordance with “The University of Tokyo, Declaration for Promoting Gender Equality (March 3, 2009).”