Doctoral Training Policy and Evidence Placement

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| **Project** | |
| **Title:** Facilitating opportunities for funding the Nature and Climate Emergencies through a Green Marketplace | |
| **Description (250 words max):** The Green Marketplace\* concept explores the potential to develop a market-based mechanism in Wales facilitating greater private sector investment in sustainable management of natural resources.  This exciting research opportunity will look at current opportunities to facilitate such a marketplace and support mechanisms to assist connections between funders and projects. It would be helpful to consider any relevant examples from Wales, the UK and beyond. These could include any platforms, research and strategies being developed to facilitate funding for the nature and climate emergencies.  The aim of the placement is to conduct an evidence review to enable NRW to better understand;   * the current demand within Wales for such opportunities and what funding and project platforms, or strategies (if any) have been developed to look at this, * what different sector opinions and needs are; and the extent to which current platforms or mechanisms meet the requirements for each sector (from landowners and environmental NGOs to financial institutions), * the evidence for the need (or otherwise) for a Green Marketplace (or alternative) mechanism for Wales.   To communicate the outcomes, the placement student will develop an options appraisal based on evidence collected and reviewed and will consider how far each option will meet the requirements for funders and projects operating in Wales to combat the nature and climate emergencies.  *\* The Green marketplace concept is at development stages and looks to combine the following: a) facilitate funding to include private as well as public funds; b) provide a meeting place for finding funders and project or service providers; c) work at a range of scales: from local, regional, and national.* | |
| **Details** | |
| **Skills required:** | Research, investigation and survey work communicating with a wide variety of stakeholders from both environmental and financial sectors, and also public and private perspectives.  Collate, analyse and present results in a clear and accessible format.  Review of evidence to determine suitable evidence-based options. |
| **Anticipated outputs:** | Determine the evidence for the need (or otherwise) for a Green Marketplace mechanism for Wales. If there is a demand, what different sector opinions and needs are; and the extent to which current platforms or mechanisms meet the requirements for each sector. Review of evidence to develop a suitable options appraisal. |
| **Host organisation:** | NRW |
| **Duration and format (full time/part time):** | 3 month PhD placement (full or part time) |
| **Development opportunities** | The placement provides an opportunity to gain insight into the functioning of Natural Resources Wales and evidenced based decision making within the Welsh environment context. The researcher will work in an interesting and diverse team, and their contributions to tackling the nature and climate emergencies will be highly valued.  The researcher will gain insight across multiple sectors working with public, private and third sector bodies. They will be working innovatively to understand the drivers for change needed to meet the strategic objectives for Wales.  The researcher will be expected to work independently within parameters and guidelines provided by Natural Resources Wales. Working closely with a wide range of colleagues the successful candidate will build valuable working relationships, broaden their knowledge of this sector, and enhance their existing transferable skills.  The researcher will join a team managing a diverse range of programmes and providing technical and advisory support across our Operational and Evidence, Policy, and Permitting directorates.  This is a fantastic opportunity to understand how research and evidence is used to inform decisions. With support from their NRW supervisor, the researcher will be expected to take responsibility for managing and delivery of work commitments during the placement period. |
| **Location and working environment:** | Flexible working, meetings by Teams and face to face as required. |
| **Start date:** | November 2022 |
| **Application criteria** | Natural Resources Wales (NRW) can only accept applications to the PhD student placement programme from registered students who are within their funded period.  All applicants must seek approval from their academic supervisor before applying |
| **Funding** | |
| The placement will be funded by NRW and will match the current UKRI PhD stipend rate. The payment process aims to compliment PhD student university stipend payment structures, i.e. NRW pay the university and the funds are passed-on to the student’s account. To avoid delays to students receiving payments, it is preferable that the student’s PhD stipend is not paused during the placement and that, instead, it continues and that NRW reimburse the university for the time the student is not undertaking research. Please note: we do not pay students directly | |
| **Contact – for queries** | |
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| **Application process** | Please submit the equal opportunities form, your CV and a short covering letter, explaining why you are suitable for this placement to Lleoliadau@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk.  NOTE: All applicants must confirm that they have received authorisation to take an interruption of studies from their academic supervisor  If you have an impairment or health condition, or use British Sign Language and need to discuss reasonable adjustments for any part of the placement programme, or wish to discuss how we will support you if you are to be successful, please contact lleoliadau@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk as soon as possible to discuss your requirements and any questions you may have. |