

## Job announcement: *Researcher Biodiversity and land-use change*

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### The Biodiversity, ecosystems and land-use change programme

Land-use change has been identified as the main driver of the global biodiversity crisis. This change, which is primarily due to agriculture, points to one of the key challenges of our time for biodiversity: finding development pathways that meet not only the needs of development, but also those of biodiversity protection and climate. In particular, deforestation and its links to agri-food commodities is central to these concerns, and IDDRI wants to maintain and develop its presence and its activities in these fields, by strengthening its team through the appointment of a researcher with expertise in these issues.

### Working areas

The programme aims to develop activities in the following areas:

- “Imported” deforestation in the European Union and agri-food commodities: sectoral strategies, sustainable strategies, national and European processes to combat imported deforestation, trade strategies and inclusion of biodiversity in trade agreements, assessment and support for private or public initiatives to guarantee “zero deforestation”, etc.
- Agricultural and rural development pathways in developing countries that are compatible with biodiversity, climate and development challenges (land-use and its change / modelling, territorial land-use and management dynamics, etc.).

### Job description

Under the supervision of the Programme Director, and in the framework of a new IDDRI initiative on trade and sustainable development to span three years, the “Biodiversity and land-use” researcher will be responsible for implementing the activities described.

To this end, the researcher will contribute to:

- Conducting critical analysis of market dynamics and of initiatives taken towards sustainability (government, corporate and NGO) in the field of commodities involved in biodiversity loss in the countries of the South (meat, palm oil, soya, maize, cocoa, coffee, etc.); maintaining the network of actors and the knowledge base on these issues.
- Studying the impacts of trade policy, and especially of the European Union’s bilateral agreements, on deforestation, and reflecting on the reform of EU and global (WTO) regulations for these matters.
- Conducting agro-economic analyses of agricultural options and rural development pathways in the countries of the South (e.g. Indonesia, Congo Basin countries) in terms of the allocation of space and the loss/gain of areas of high ecological value, and of greenhouse gas emissions trajectories.

- Looking for technical and/or financial partnerships for the development of activities in these fields, developing and managing specific projects, in connection with the French, European and international bodies.
- Ensuring operational evaluation to identify the implications of results obtained in terms of possible recommendations for French, EU and producer country policies.

The researcher will have the possibility:

- to join a dynamic team of researchers and project managers specialising in sustainable development, actively involved in the implementation of environmental policies internationally and in France, and supported by Sciences Po;
- to contribute to an innovative programme and initiative, spanning several years, in connection with a major development assistance organisation, public and private environmental partners and international value chains;
- to promote contributions and results through publications (scientific and policy-oriented), communications and interventions with actors in the sector.

## Qualifications and skills required

- The successful candidate will have a postgraduate diploma (Masters or PhD), preferably in the fields of agro-economics and forestry, and at least five years' experience in the field of research or expertise.
- Excellent command of both written and spoken English is essential, and working knowledge of French is required.
- Knowledge or experience of the technical issues of agricultural production or forestry, and an interest in and awareness of biodiversity issues.
- Experience of research, publication and national or international decision-making processes in the fields mentioned.

Other skills:

- The ability to take initiative, and to work both independently and within a team.
- Good interpersonal skills to manage networks and work in partnership.
- Excellent writing and analytical skills.

## Contract offered

Temporary contract with a fixed term of 24 or 36 months depending on profile.

Salary commensurate with experience, based on IDDRI's salary scale (±40k€).

Position based in Paris (75006), with frequent travel.

## How to apply

Applications (CV, covering letter and details of three referees) must be sent before 3 February 2020 to:

Yann Laurans ([yann.laurans@iddri.org](mailto:yann.laurans@iddri.org)) and Lisa Dacosta ([lisa.dacosta@iddri.org](mailto:lisa.dacosta@iddri.org))

The first interviews will be scheduled for the week of 17 February 2020.

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

IDDRI is an equal opportunities employer.