

Position Description



Department of Environment and Natural Sciences, Faculty of Engineering, Science and Technology The Maldives National University

School of Geography, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences
Faculty of Science
The University of Melbourne

Research Project: Future Islands: Catalysing Solutions to Climate Change in Low-Lying Islands

POSITION	International Partnerships Officer/Research Fellow
POSITION SUMMARY	This position is the result of a collaboration between the Maldives National University (MNU) and the University of Melbourne (UniMelb) as part of the project "Future Islands: Catalysing Solutions to Climate Change in Low-Lying Islands." The project seeks to document changes in the environment in Maldivian islands as observed by people in the last few years, and understand how hopeful they are about the future. Through qualitative and quantitative data collection, the study seeks to evaluate what are the things and values people in the Maldives would like to preserve for future generations, and what are the best ways to do so through climate change adaptation and development projects.
SALARY	23,000MVR per month
WORKING HOURS	Full-time (6 hours) (5 days a week)
LOCATION	The appointed candidate will be located in the Faculty of Engineering, Science and Technology at MNU and work there during the scheduled times.
BASIS OF EMPLOYMENT	Fixed term for 1 year (July 2023-June 2024) and renewable yearly
QUALIFICATION:	Tertiary qualifications (preferably at Masters level) in Environmental Management, Public Administration, Human Resources, Social Sciences or any other relevant fields
SELECTION CRITERIA	Demonstrated evidence of experience conducting research in diverse atolls in the Maldives Willingness to travel within the Maldives and to spend extended periods of time working in any of the 17 atolls as directed by the research team. Demonstrated experience brokering and managing partnerships between different stakeholders in the Maldives Demonstrated expertise in quantitative and qualitative research methods in the social sciences

Previous experience with the use of data collection tools, preferably KoboToolbox and Qualtrics.
Excellent interpersonal and both written and oral communication skills in English and Divehi
Ability to work cooperatively and positively in an international team environment
Demonstrated excellent organisational skills to: organise field trips, arrange meetings with local authorities and key informants and meet deadlines
Demonstrated understanding of research ethics protocols
Demonstrated knowledge of climate change adaptation in general and in the Maldives context
Demonstrated knowledge of public policy and the workings of the Maldivian decentralized administration (e.g. atoll and island councils)
Previous experience with governmental agencies, international institutions or NGOs

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

You are expected to significantly contribute towards the research effort of the team in three ways:

- 1) Undertaking data collection in different locations across the Maldives.**
- 2) Managing the partnership between MNU and the University of Melbourne (UoM), and future partnerships with other international and national stakeholders.**
- 3) Helping MNU with promotion activities relating to its Environmental Management course, such as assisting lecturers in their teaching and other Faculty activities.**

Responsibilities include:

- Organize and attend annual and biannual planning and review meetings in Male between academics and staff members at MNU and the University of Melbourne
 - Liaise and work collaboratively with research partners and members of the research team in MNU and UoM
 - Manage the partnership between MNU and UoM, including the day-to-day running of administrative tasks, organising workshops, classes and seminars; and arrange meetings between international partners
 - Establish new partnerships at the national level (e.g. between MNU and Local Island Councils, Women's Development Committees, NGOs, etc.) and actively manage them
 - Undergo training with members of the research team
 - Participate in extensive field trips to collect data and broker partnerships, involving:
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- Planning trips and liaising with local authorities and NGOs, arranging transport, accommodation and other logistics, and collaborating with the research team in the design of research methods;
 - Identify and interview key informants
 - Undertake data collection (both with other team members and independently);
 - Gather qualitative data on events, development, and adaptation projects (past, ongoing and future) both at the island and atoll levels, as well as nationally;
 - Translate didactic material on climate change and adaptation from English to Divehi and be able to deliver it to different audiences, including school students and local island councils
- Perform other tasks as requested by the research team.

HOW TO APPLY

Interested candidates please send applications (in English) to the faculty email (fest@mnu.edu.mv) and copy the application email to Adam Khalid, Prof. Jon Barnett and Dr. Sergio Jarillo.

Documents to be send with the application:

- CV
- Accredited copies of your certificates and transcripts
- Copy of ID card/passport (up to date)

APPLICATION DEADLINE

17th July 2023 at 14pm

CONTACTS

Coordinator at MNU:

Dr. Adam Khalid

Email: adam.khalid@mnu.edu.mv

Responsible Researcher at the University of Melbourne:

Prof. Jon Barnett

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Team supervisors at the University of Melbourne:

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Dr. Colette Mortreux

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