



College Management Unit:	UCD College of Science
School Unit:	UCD School of Biology and Environmental Science
Post Title & Subject Area:	UCD Post-doctoral Research Fellow Level 1
Project:	PALUdiculture large-Scale DEMONstration Project
Post Duration:	Temporary 3 year post
Line Manager:	Dr Florence Renou-Wilson, Principal Investigator
Competition Ref. N^o:	018199
HR Administrator:	Natalia McDonagh
Relocation Expenses:	N/A
Garda Vetting:	Will not apply.

Position Summary:

The EU-funded PALUS DEMOS project will create three large-scale demonstration sites for paludiculture in Ireland, England and the Netherlands to explore new agricultural business models, develop markets for paludiculture products, increase employment, and enhance biodiversity and water quality aligning with the European Green Deal. It will show how paludiculture can preserve peat soils, provide economic opportunities and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The project will use a bottom-up approach, create sustainable practices at these sites, stimulate the market and provide policy recommendations to address potential challenges. The project has 26 partners across five countries.

The candidate will be located primarily within Dr Florence Renou-Wilson’s lab in UCD but will work closely with other researchers within UCD as well as with partners in the University of Galway (Dr Terry Morley) and Manchester Metropolitan University (Dr Chris Field) and universities in the Netherlands.

This is a research focused role, where you will conduct a specified programme of research supported by research training and development under the supervision and direction of a Principal Investigator.

The primary purpose of the role is to further develop your research skills and competences, including the processes of publication in peer-reviewed academic publications, the development of funding proposals, the mentorship of graduate students along with the opportunity to develop your skills in research led teaching.

In addition to the Principal Duties and Responsibilities listed below, the successful candidate will also carry out the following duties specific to this project and associated work packages including:

- The researcher will carry out peatland site investigations at the demonstration sites in Ireland and carry out experimental trials at demonstration scale to study species performance and best practices for management and harvesting.
- Additional investigations into ecosystem services associated with these systems especially biodiversity and water assessment, will be carried out by the researcher involving further field and laboratory work.
- The researcher will help establish paludiculture demonstrators in Ireland and assist with the respective outreach and knowledge exchange networks in all demonstrators. In Ireland they will be expected to organise and support capacity building networks within paludiculture. They will establish a clear baseline



with comparable and comprehensive data enhanced by open public data, and remote sensing. Each demonstrator will work with diverse stakeholders to achieve this.

- The researcher will assist University of Galway with the development of novel monitoring methodologies to be applied in the demonstrator sites with regards to atmospheric and fluvial emissions.
- The candidate will be willing to travel to the other demonstrators to assist in knowledge transfer and assist as needed for the completion of project deliverables.

Principal Duties and Responsibilities:

- Conduct a specified programme of research and scholarship under the supervision and direction of your Principal Investigator.
- Engage in appropriate training and professional development opportunities as required by your Principal Investigator, your School or Institute, or the University.
- Engage in the dissemination of the results of the research in which you are engaged as directed by and with the support of and under the supervision of your Principal Investigator.
- Engage in the wider research and scholarly activities of your research group, School and Institute.
- Mentor and assist, as appropriate and as directed, the research graduate students in your group, School and Institute.
- Carry out administrative work associated with your programme of research.

Salary Range: €44,847 - €51,343 per annum

Appointment on the above range will be dependent on qualifications and experience

Details on eligibility to compete and pension information is available at

<https://www.ucd.ie/hr/resourcing/eligibilitytocompete/>

UCD is committed to creating an inclusive environment where diversity is celebrated and everyone is afforded equality of opportunity. We welcome applications from everyone, including those who identify with any of the protected characteristics that are set out in our Equality, Diversity and Inclusion policy. Learn more about Diversity at: <https://www.ucd.ie/workatucd/diversity/>

Reasonable accommodations will be provided to any applicant during the interview process who discloses they have a disability or are neurodiverse.

Selection Criteria

Selection criteria outline the qualifications, skills, knowledge and/or experience that the successful candidate would need to demonstrate for successful discharge of the responsibilities of the post. Applications will be assessed on the basis of how well candidates satisfy these criteria.

Mandatory:

- PhD in Agriculture, Environmental Sciences, Biology, Ecology
- Experience with biological and environmental (soil, plant, water, air) field data collection and analysis.
- Expertise in R,GIS
- A demonstrated commitment to research and publications
- An understanding of the operational requirements for a successful research project
- Evidence of research activity (publications, conference presentations, awards) and future scholarly output



(working papers, research proposals, and ability to outline a research project.

- Excellent Communication Skills (Oral, Written , Presentation etc).
- Excellent Organisational and Administrative skills including a proven ability to work to deadlines.
- Candidates must demonstrate an awareness of equality, diversity and inclusion agenda.

The PD1 position is intended for early stage researchers, either just after completion of a PhD or for someone entering a new area for the first time. If you have already completed your PD1 stage in UCD or will soon complete a PD1, or you are an external applicant whose total Postdoctoral experience, inclusive of the duration of the advertised post, would exceed 4 years, you should not apply and should refer to PD2 posts instead.

Desirable:

- Experience in peatland or wetland research
- Experience in setting own research agenda

Supplementary information:

The University:	https://www.ucd.ie/
UCD Strategy 2030: Breaking Boundaries	https://strategy.ucd.ie/
UCD College of Science:	https://www.ucd.ie/science/
UCD School of Biology and Environmental Science:	https://www.ucd.ie/bioenvsci/
Equality Diversity and Inclusion at UCD	https://www.ucd.ie/workatucd/diversity/
(Other) Project EU website	https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101182338

UCD offers a comprehensive **Research Careers Framework** in line with the Advisory Science Council Report '*Towards a Framework for Researcher Careers*'. This model provides a structured and supportive **Career and Skills Development** system designed to ensure that Post-docs in UCD are able to plan their careers and prepare for future opportunities in academia, industry or the public sector. For more information, please [click here](#)

Informal Enquiries ONLY to:

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