

Research Assistant – LIVE Project

Position Summary

The LIVE operation (Llŷn IVeragh Ecomuseums) is a multi-partner venture that will establish an Ecomuseum in western Iveragh, Co. Kerry, and will develop a new pillar for the #Ecoamgueddfa of the Llŷn Peninsula in Wales. LIVE is co-funded by the European Regional Development Fund through the Ireland Wales Cooperation Programme. The main focus of the operation is to maximise the potential of local natural heritage as a tourism asset. The operation brings together a diverse team with complementary skill sets and an ambition to enable communities to market their natural and cultural capital to create sustainable tourism products. Among the innovative aspects of the operation is the strategy of tapping into existing and new information resources in the partner universities and communities with a goal of developing and enhancing the quality and impact of ecotourism in the participating coastal communities.

We are looking for **five** research assistants to act as knowledge gatherers within the LIVE Operation. The Knowledge Gatherers will be recruited on a one-year contract to facilitate the development of a diverse range of knowledge-gathering activities related to aspects of the natural heritage of the Iveragh peninsula. These roles will be based on the Iveragh peninsula, Co. Kerry, Ireland. While the exact topics to be explored will be defined by the local stakeholders, we hope to recruit individuals with experience and knowledge in the broad areas of geoheritage; marine ecology; coastal biodiversity; botany and eco-tourism. As well as gathering and producing knowledge, these roles will have a strong emphasis on using that knowledge to develop educational and tourism-focussed resources tailored to the needs of local businesses and communities. There may be the opportunity for the post-holders to enrol in an MSc/MRes programme and develop the work done in the LIVE Operation into a research project submitted for an MSc/MRes award.

The positions will commence from May 2021 unless further restrictions related to Covid-19 necessitate a delay. These full-time posts are based in south Kerry, so some knowledge of the locality would be a strong benefit.

For more information on the Ireland Wales Cooperation Programme, visit www.irelandwales.eu

Project website: www.ecomuseumlive.eu

Salary: €22,609 - €35,218

Post Duration: 12 months

Key Duties and Responsibilities

- To work under the direction of the Principal Investigator/Project Leader to identify areas of interest and knowledge gaps relating to natural assets of Iveragh and to design knowledge gathering programmes to address these gaps.
- To provide assistance in conducting research activities, including planning, organizing, conducting, and communicating knowledge gathering programmes to local communities and stakeholders.



- To coordinate and perform a variety of independent and team activities involved in the collection, analysis, documentation and some interpretation of information/results.
- To undertake tasks which may include recording results and preparing technical reports including conclusions and recommendations. To coordinate the development of forms, questionnaires and the application of qualitative and quantitative research techniques; write procedures for data collection; use new and existing information to develop tourism products.
- To present information on research progress and outcomes to others responsible for the research project.
- To provide guidance as required to any support staff and/or research students assisting with the research project, as agreed with the Principal Investigator/Grant holder.
- Ideally to contribute to the publication of findings and to bring the knowledge gathering programmes to local schools and to the wider community by developing habitat/landscape specific experiential learning packages for a wide range of end users including locals and tourists on the Llŷn and Iweragh peninsulas.
- To confer with the Principal Investigator in developing plans for research projects and to discuss the interpretation of results and the preparation of manuscripts for publication.
- To perform other related duties incidental to the work described herein.

Criteria

- A graduate qualification in a field of discipline relevant to the area of investigation i.e. BSc/BA or MSc/MA.
- Some research experience is desirable.
- Good report writing and presentation skills
- Previous fieldwork and laboratory experience, as relevant.
- Good analytical skills and computer skills.
- An ability to work independently to a tight schedule.
- Capability of working effectively within a team to achieve results.
- Evidence of excellent organisational and communication skills.
- High levels of initiative are encouraged.
- Some experience of working with NGOs or communities.
- For certain positions, good working knowledge of either the Welsh or Irish language may be desirable.
- Please note that Garda vetting and international police clearance check may form part of the selection process.

Applications must be submitted online via the University College Cork vacancy portal <https://ore.ucc.ie/>. Candidates should apply, in confidence, **before 12 noon Irish Local Time) on Thursday, 29th April 2020**. Queries relating to the online application process should be referred to recruitment@ucc.ie, quoting the job-title.

Informal enquiries can be made in confidence to l.taylor@ucc.ie.

