

Postdoctoral Opportunity in Agricultural Climate Risk



Summary of the position:

We are looking for a new Postdoctoral Researcher to join our group at the University of Manchester, UK, as part of a project funded by UK research councils (NERC and ESRC) and the UK Department for International Development (DFID) that aims to design improved weather index-based insurance to enhance resilience of smallholder farmers to risks posed by extreme weather and climate change. As part of this project, you will develop approaches to improve field-level crop yield estimation in India using crop models, satellite remote sensing, and in-situ imagery, and machine learning. Working with partners in India and the United States, you will assess the ability of alternative datasets and models to improve the reliability of yield monitoring and insurance for farmers in India.

Who we are looking for:

We are ideally looking for candidates who have a PhD (or comparable professional experience) in Agricultural Science/Engineering, Remote Sensing, Data Science, or a related discipline, a developing publication track record, and strong written and oral communication skills. Experience of applying models and/or data analytics to agricultural problems would also be highly desirable for this role.

What we can offer:

The position is initially for a fixed term of 12 months (starting Feb 2019 onwards), with the possibility of extension subject to availability of funding. You will be part of a dynamic and growing group of researchers in the School of Engineering at the University of Manchester who are working to design solutions to water and climate-related risks in agriculture worldwide (www.fosterlab.weebly.com). As part of the project, you will also work closely with project partners at the International Food Policy Research Institute in the United States, Ghent University in Belgium, and with some of the biggest insurance providers in India (HDFC-ERGO General Insurance). The position includes funding for travel to conferences and field sites, along with mentoring and support to help you to develop your own independent research as part of the role.

More information:

For informal discussions about the position and how to apply, get in touch using the email below.

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