

RESEARCH ASSISTANT POSITION

BENCHMARK ASSESSMENT FOR COLLABORATIVE ENGAGEMENT ON DEFORESTATION

Location: London (or remote locations will be considered)

Duration: Primarily in September and October 2017. Some availability in November may be required. Maximum 31 days.

Start date: A.S.A.P. - this position is immediately available

Remuneration: Depending on experience

About the PRI

The PRI is the world's leading proponent of responsible investment. It works to understand the investment implications of environmental, social and governance (ESG) factors and to support its international network of investor signatories in integrating these factors into their investment and ownership decisions. The PRI acts in the long-term interests of its signatories, of the financial markets and economies in which they operate and ultimately of the environment and society as a whole.

The PRI is truly independent. It encourages investors to use responsible investment to enhance returns and better manage risks, but does not operate for its own profit; it engages with global policy makers but is not associated with any government; it is supported by, but not part of, the United Nations.

Job description

This is an exciting and unique opportunity for an individual with a background and interest in soft commodity-driven deforestation to gain experience in the field of responsible investment and global shareholder engagement. The assistant will be reporting to the Manager of Investor Engagements, Environmental Issues, at the PRI and will also work with the PRI-Ceres Deforestation Steering Committee, which consists of a group of global investors facilitated by a PRI-Ceres partnership.

The Research Assistant will be required to undertake the following activities:

1. **Conduct benchmark assessment:** Using publicly available information, conduct a benchmark across a maximum of 70 specified public companies with exposure to cattle or cattle products, using the metrics provided.
2. **Written report:** Present the results of the assessment in a summary report.
3. **Contribute to presentation of results to PRI-Ceres Deforestation Engagement Group:** Prepare slides for a presentation of results to the PRI-Ceres Deforestation Engagement group via teleconference and make any required amendments based on feedback.

The PRI-Ceres coordinated engagement on deforestation

In 2017, the PRI, in partnership with Ceres, launched a collaborative engagement on soft commodity-driven deforestation, focusing on companies with direct or indirect exposure to Cattle, Soy, and Timber/Pulp and Paper. The engagement aims to increase company disclosure of deforestation risks in supply chains and also encourage companies to manage these risks. This benchmarking exercise will provide investors with insight into companies' current levels of progress and inform subsequent investor-company dialogues.

The full list of target companies and details on the indicators will be made available upon request on a confidential basis to parties wishing to submit an application.

Candidate Requirements:

- Master degree or higher degree (Deforestation, Sustainability, Supply chains, CSR, ESG or RI related field)
- Knowledge of soft commodities (primarily Cattle and Soy) in Latin America, and associated supply chains
- Previous research experience, ideally research of corporate CSR data;
- Native English speaker, or fluent in written and spoken English (Portuguese an advantage)
- Excellent Word and Excel skills
- Understanding of responsible investment, and investor engagement with companies preferred
- High attention to detail
- Available part time as needed between September and November
- Must be able to satisfy visa requirements for working in the UK if not a EU citizen

To apply for this role please send a CV with a one page cover letter to liam.flannigan@unpri.org by 11 August 2017.