

BIRDLIFE INTERNATIONAL - JOB SPECIFICATION/DESCRIPTION

JOB TITLE:	Science Officer (ecosystem services)
DIVISION/DEPARTMENT:	Science

1. OVERALL PURPOSE OF JOB

Produce a new module in the Toolkit for Ecosystem Service Site-based Assessment (TESSA; <http://tessa.tools>) with methods and guidance to non-specialists on assessing air quality regulation as an ecosystem service at particular sites.

2. STAFF RELATIONSHIPS

REPORTING TO (LINE MANAGER):
Ecosystem Services Officer
REPORTING TO JOB HOLDER (LINE MANAGED STAFF):
None
PRINCIPAL STAFF RELATIONSHIPS/RESPONSIBILITIES WITHIN THE SECRETARIAT
Working closely with the Science team at BirdLife International. Other liaison: members of the Policy team
PRINCIPAL STAFF RELATIONSHIPS/RESPONSIBILITIES WITHIN BIRDLIFE NETWORK
You will closely liaise and work with the TESSA steering committee members (representing BirdLife International, RSPB, TBA, University of Southampton, and University of Cambridge), and administrators and communication officer from the team of CCI (project funder). You will work closely with a team of experts from the UK Centre for Ecology and Hydrology (CEH), the Tsinghua University and the University of Cambridge, Department of Chemistry.

3. KEY WORKING RELATIONSHIPS

Contact	Level (1-3)	Contact	Level (1-3)	Contact	Level (1-3)
BirdLife Network Organisation Staff	1	General Public	2	Institutional policy makers /Politicians/ Corporations	1
BirdLife Advisory Groups, Committees, Reg. Councils	2	Press & Media	2	Institutional Funders	2
BirdLife Global Council	1	Regulators/Legislators/ Auditors	1	Individual donors/ members	1
Suppliers/Service Providers	1	Scientific Community	3	Royalty/VIPs/ High worth Individuals	1
Level of Contact					
1.= General Informing. "Appearance, first impressions". May have some independent outside exposure and contact, primarily informative.					
2.= Presenting/Representing/Reporting "Relationship management". Frequent exposure representing BirdLife. Maintaining individual contacts. Frequently managing information flow.					
3.= Justifying/Negotiating - "Influencing decision makers". Frequent exposure as lead contact, representing Birdlife to highly influential people. Responsible for complex and sensitive/high risk communications.					

4. MAIN DUTIES/WORK PROGRAMME RESPONSIBILITIES

By main work area:
<p>Under a CCI-funded project on developing methods for assessing air quality regulation as an ecosystem service at particular sites, the post-holder will provide day-to-day project management assistance to the project lead and partners, and complete the following activities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Undertake a literature review on recent emerging issues, practices and tools for assessing air quality regulation at site- or local-scale. Identify knowledge gaps. 2) Plan and organise a workshop with experts at the beginning of the project to gather information on: the effects of vegetation cover on the deposition rates of different pollutants, and knowledge gaps for this topic (e.g., related to health; ecology; urban and rural air quality regulation emerging practices and issues). 3) Synthesise information from the workshop outputs. 4) Organise follow-up meetings with key experts in the area and use this information together with the outputs of the workshop to develop and populate tables on the uptake of pollutants by different type of vegetation, working with the support of experts from UK-CEH. 5) Organise periodic project meetings with the project partners and the scientific advisory group (who will act as a scientific sounding board, providing suggestions and feedback on air quality, ecology, and uptake of pollutants by vegetation) 6) Draft a new chapter for TESSA on air quality regulation, organize its review by relevant experts and TESSA steering committee members, revise it in response to this feedback, and finalise the chapter. This will include written guidance for end-users on applying a pollution-removal model that will be developed by UK-CEH. 7) Create an excel tool informed by this model in which users will enter information on vegetation type, pollutant concentrations, beneficiaries and other ancillary data and the tool will automatically calculate the air pollution removed, changes in pollution concentration, and the ecosystems and local populations benefitting from air quality regulation. 8) Integrate this new chapter into the TESSA toolkit.

5. LIMITS OF AUTHORITY/RESPONSIBILITY FOR RESOURCES

RESPONSIBILITY AREA	LEVEL OF AUTHORITY
Financial/Budgetary	None
Contracts – Funders	Responsible for contributing to reports on work to relevant funders
Contracts – Staff/Consultants	None
Contracts – Service providers	None
Legal Responsibility	None
Other	

6. EDUCATION/SKILLS AND OTHER SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

REQUIREMENTS	ESSENTIAL	DESIRABLE
Education/ Qualification	PhD <u>or</u> equivalent experience in a relevant subject	
Knowledge	Good understanding and knowledge of ecosystem services. Knowledge of methods for statistical analysis	Knowledge of modelling
Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience in collecting, collating and synthesising relevant information and data. • Experience in writing to a high standard and in a clear and concise manner. • Experience in conducting literature reviews. • Experience of interpreting scientific data, to distil critical aspects, and communicating qualitative and quantitative research outputs in written and oral format in a clear, accurate and concise manner. • Experience in using methods for measuring ecosystem services • A proven ability to conduct independent research/project work. 	<p>Experience in publishing scientific papers.</p> <p>Experience of managing, manipulating and analysing data and handling big datasets.</p>
Management & organisational skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to work independently to a high standard, and also within teams. • Ability to manage own time effectively and to work to deadlines. • Able to work collaboratively in a positive and productive team setting. • Good networking and partnership skills 	
Communications skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellent communication skills, particularly ability to communicate information in written format in a clear and concise manner. • Strong English writing skills 	
Creativity & Initiative skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong attention to details. • Ability to think creatively and laterally. 	
Computer Literacy skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellent skills in excel. • Microsoft Office, visualisation software to create infographics • High level of numeracy. 	R, ArcGIS (or other GIS), and/or modelling
Languages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellent written and spoken English 	
Travel requirements	None	

Prepared by:	Date:
Senior Ecosystem Services Officer & Chief Scientist	26/04/2022