



Job title	Research Assistant (Data Scientist in Agriculture, Nutrition and Geography)	Job family and level	Research and Teaching Level 4a
School/ Department	School of Biosciences, Division of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences	Location	Sutton Bonington Campus

Purpose of role

The MAPS (Micronutrient Action Policy Support) project is a major investment by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF). It is developing an online tool to enable a range of stakeholders to engage with data on dietary micronutrient supply and status in food systems, and the factors that influence the risk of deficiency in people. The tool will allow exploration of spatial factors affecting micronutrient supply, and the linking of data with other modelling tools to allow the assessment of policies and interventions. The tool is using open-source software throughout its implementation, and will make new scripts and data outputs available open-access.

The purpose of the role is to support the data processing activities of the MAPS project, focused on the data cleaning and harmonisation activities of the MAPS project, and involves communicate in English and French, as well as processing data acquired in either language. The role involves close working with project colleagues across the disciplines of soil and crop sciences, human nutrition, economics, as well as (geo)statistical, data architecture and web-development specialists.

	Main responsibilities (Primary accountabilities and responsibilities expected to fulfil the role)	% time per year
1	To undertake data cleaning activities in R language, working on diverse datasets within the MAPS project under the guidance of various subject matter experts.	50%
2	To contribute to data discussion meetings with stakeholders, under the guidance of the project lead or topic leads, in English or French.	10%
3	To contribute clearly documented scripts to the project GitHub repository and liaise with the project's data architecture specialists to ensure version controlled uploading of data into the tool. User testing of other project scripts prior to their public release.	30%
4	To contribute to the documentation and user support information associated with the processed data as required by the project.	10%

Person specification

	Essential	Desirable
Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Experience of using R scripts, including efficient coding mechanisms and use of various 'packages' in the R environment. ▪ Excellent team-working skills and an understanding of how to communicate with colleagues from differing diverse geographic and disciplinary backgrounds. ▪ Excellent written and spoken language skills (English & French). 	
Knowledge and experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Understanding the value of good data management practices, e.g. documentation/protocols, metadata recording, testing scripts before release. ▪ Use of script repositories, e.g. GitHub for team working and sharing open-access 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ An understanding of micronutrients from nutrition/public health, environment/agriculture, or economics perspectives
Qualifications, certification and training (relevant to role)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ MSc or BSc(Hons) in a subject relevant to the post, or the MAPS project disciplines. 	
Statutory, legal or special requirements		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ability to travel internationally in support of project activities, when international conditions for travel are suitable.



The University of Nottingham is focused on embedding equality, diversity and inclusion in all that we do. As part of this, we welcome a diverse population to join our work force and therefore encourage applicants from all communities, particularly those with protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010.



The University is a signatory of the Declaration on Research Assessment (DORA). As such we commit to focus on the scientific content of publications (where requested or provided as part of the recruitment and selection process) as a basis for review of quality, and consideration of value and impact of research conducted, rather than any proxy measures such as Journal Impact Factor.

Expectations and behaviours

The University has developed a clear set of core expectations and behaviours that our people should be demonstrating in their work, and as ambassadors of the University's strategy, vision and values. The following are essential to the role:

Valuing people	Is friendly, engaging and receptive, putting others at ease. Actively listens to others and goes out of way to ensure people feel valued, developed and supported.
Taking ownership	Is clear on what needs to be done encouraging others to take ownership. Takes action when required, being mindful of important aspects such as Health & Safety, Equality, Diversity & Inclusion, and other considerations.
Forward thinking	Drives the development, sharing and implementation of new ideas and improvements to support strategic objectives. Engages others in the improvement process.
Professional pride	Is professional in approach and style, setting an example to others; strives to demonstrate excellence through development of self, others and effective working practices.
Always inclusive	Builds effective working relationships, recognising and including the contribution of others; promotes inclusion and inclusive practices within own work area.

Key relationships with others



