

Call for a contract assistant professor (Department of Biology: Ecology)

1. Position: One (1), contract assistant professor

2. Research area: Ecology

3. Responsibility

Department of Biology, Institute of Life and Environmental Sciences, University of Tsukuba, seeks a contract assistant professor who can advance and lead research aimed at elucidating the impacts of environmental changes on terrestrial ecosystems, based on empirical studies grounded in field surveys and data science utilizing big data. To elucidate ecosystem responses to environmental changes, it is essential to comprehensively understand and evaluate the responses of diverse taxonomic groups, as well as their impacts on material cycles and ecosystem services. A candidate who can vigorously pursue cutting-edge research that integrates field science and data science at a high level to decipher complex ecosystem processes is sought.

The successful candidate will be involved in College of Biological Sciences, School of Life and Environmental Sciences (undergraduate course), Master's Program in Mountain Studies, University of Tsukuba (graduate course), Doctoral Program in Environmental Studies, University of Tsukuba, (graduate course), Mountain Science Center (Sangaku Kagaku Center).

4. Qualifications and Requirements

- Possession of a Ph. D. at the time of appointment.
- Ability to conduct and publish research in the field concerned at an international level.
- Ability to perform education, research, and administrative works, closely communicating and smoothly cooperating with the staff of the undergraduate and graduate schools.
- Ability to make lectures and practical training in both Japanese and English.
- Keen interest in conducting education, research, and administration as described in the job description above.

5. Period of appointment, compensation

Start date: April. 1st, 2027, or later.

Affiliation: Institute of Life and Environmental Sciences, University of Tsukuba. Area of responsibility is the College of Biological Sciences, Graduate School of Science and Technology Sciences, Sangaku Kagaku Center.

Term: 3 years from start date up, it is renewable annually thereafter and may be extended for up to five years from the date of appointment.

Salary: Annual salary scheme. Annual salary commensurate with experience, etc. Commuting allowance provided the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science, and Technology Mutual Aid Association membership.

Place of work: 1-1-1 Tennodai, Tsukuba, Ibaraki 305-8672, Japan.

6. Required application documents

1) Curriculum vitae (Please fill in the designated form of the University (ApplicationformNo3-6, List of All Research Achievements): refer to the example and instructions for filling in the form. Putting your photo on the top right-hand corner.)

2) List of past achievements (Please fill in the designated form of the University (ApplicationformNo3-6, List of All Research Achievements): refer to the example and instructions for filling in the form.).

3) List of achievements in education, practical skills, and business activities (Please fill in the designated form of the University (ApplicationformNo3-6, List of All Research Achievements): refer to the example and instructions for filling in the form.).

4) Educational and research plans and aspirations (Please fill in the designated form of the University (ApplicationformNo3-6, List of All Research Achievements): refer to the example and instructions for filling in the form.).

5) List of past achievements (free format: refer to Example of Entry (Please fill in the designated form of the University (ApplicationformNo3-6, List of All Research Achievements): refer to the example and instructions for filling in the form.) dividing into the following categories: 1. thesis, 2. book, 3. peer-reviewed original paper, 4. peer-reviewed review article, 5. status of obtaining external funding (for representative only).

The latest impact factor of each peer-reviewed original paper should be added. The total Impact Factor, total number of citations, and H Index of peer-reviewed original articles are listed at the end.

6) PDF copies of up to five peer-reviewed original papers or articles. Each file should include the number assigned to the research achievement list and your affiliation and name.

7) Overview of research to date (max. 1,500 words in Japanese or 800 words in English)

8) Names and contact information (affiliation, address, telephone number, and e-mail address) of two researchers whose opinions on the applicant are requested.

9) European Economic Area (EEA) residents must submit a scanned copy of the Consent for the Processing and Extraterritorial Transfer of Personal Data under the EU General Data Protection Regulation (separate form) (form prescribed by the University).

Please download the prescribed form and example from JREC-IN PORTAL site. All files should be converted to PDF files and combined into a single file named “(Your)Name_(Your)Affiliation_AssistantProfessor_Ecosystem”.

Information contained in the submitted documents will not be used for any purpose other than selection and employment. Application documents will not be returned.

7. Selection

Application submission deadline: May 7th, 2026.

Interview: The interview will be conducted after the application submission deadline and screening of the application documents. For the interview, the applicant(s) will be requested to provide a 20 to 30-minute presentation in Japanese or English, containing the outlining his/her research to date, aspirations for research and education activities in the future, and concrete research plans. The interview will be done on line by Teams or Zoom, or face-to-face, depending on the situation. When the interview is done by face-to-face, the applicant(s) will be required to cover the cost of interview-related travel and stay.

8. Application submission and inquiries

In principle, all application documents should be submitted as a single PDF file via the JREC-IN Portal Web application. If you have difficulty submitting your application via the JREC-IN Portal, please contact us at the address below. Please note that applications must arrive no later than the application deadline. If you have any questions, please contact the following address.

Hidekazu Kuwayama

Institute of Life and Environmental Sciences, University of Tsukuba.

Tennodai 1-1-1, Tsukuba, Ibaraki 305-8572 Japan

kuwayama.hidekazu.fu@u.tsukuba.ac.jp