



CENTRE FOR ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION - KENYA

JOB DESCRIPTION 2:

Ecologist / Agronomist (Experimental Agroecology & Field Systems Design)

Project: Asili – Non-invasive Ecosystem Monitoring (UKRI-funded)

Location: Limuru, Kenya

Duration: Up to 12 (start as soon as possible)

Employment Type: Consultancy

Employer/Host: Centre for Ecosystem Restoration – Kenya (CER-K)

About the Role

CER-K is seeking an Ecologist, Agronomist, or Agricultural Scientist (post-MSc or equivalent experience preferred) to lead the design, implementation, and long-term management of experimental agricultural research plots in Limuru, Kenya.

This position sits within a multidisciplinary research programme focused on understanding how agricultural practices influence soil health, using both conventional ecological methods and advanced non-invasive monitoring technologies developed under the Asili project.

The successful candidate will work closely with CER-K soil scientists, geophysicists, and international partners including the Earth Rover Program to design a robust experimental field system.

Collaboration & Project Environment

This role is embedded in the UKRI-funded *Asili* project led by the University of Exeter, in collaboration with CER-K, Earth Rover Program, University of Nairobi (Chiromo Campus), Mpala Research Centre, and Lion Landscapes. The role includes participation in international virtual meetings, in-person workshops in Kenya, and engagement with UK-based collaborators including a short research visit to Exeter.





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Key Responsibilities

- Design and establish a 10x10m experimental agricultural research plot
- Develop experimental frameworks examining crop type, rotation, and soil management impacts
- Coordinate soil sampling, field trials, and ecological monitoring programmes
- Work closely with local agroecologists, soil scientists, and seed specialists
- Integrate field-based agricultural experiments with sensor and geophysical data streams
- Support long-term monitoring of soil health indicators
- Collaborate with CER-K research team and international Asili partners
- Contribute to field reports, data analysis, and scientific outputs
- Co-organise annual Asili workshops at the NGGG site

Required Qualifications & Experience

- MSc or higher in Ecology, Agronomy, Agricultural Science, Soil Science, or related field
- Experience in field-based agricultural or ecological research
- Strong understanding of soil-plant interactions and agricultural systems
- Experience in experimental design and data collection in field settings

Desirable Skills

- Experience working in tropical or smallholder agricultural systems
- Familiarity with soil health indicators and ecological monitoring methods
- Ability to manage field sites and coordinate local collaborators
- Interest in interdisciplinary environmental research

Apply by sending your CV and certificates as one PDF document to recruit@cerkenya.org by 30th April 2026.

