The creation of cross-disciplinary knowledge, i.e. knowledge the purpose of which exceeds research in one discipline, appears to be essential for addressing the complexity of the modern world and finding solutions to economic, social and environmental issues. IRD is seeking applicants for a full-time researcher focused on sustainability and development science, with an emphasis on understanding the links, negative externalities, positive synergies and optimum trade-offs between SDGs (e.g., the nexus approach). These links can be considered at three levels: a better understanding of the complex causal chains in the eco-socio-systems that produce the phenomena to be controlled; the impact of sector-specific policies aimed at one SDG on other sectors and the global agenda; and lastly, innovative multi-stakeholder solutions likely to promote new sustainable development models. It is therefore important to note that this role is intended for applicants who wish to use their research to simultaneously understand phenomena at different levels and help solve complex, real-world problems that existing disciplines have not yet tackled in the round. Applicants consequently must have experience in collaborating beyond disciplinary boundaries to produce solutions to sustainability issues. Areas of interest include, but are not limited to, climate change, land use change, conservation of continental and marine biodiversity, urbanisation and cities, agriculture, fisheries and food safety, pollution, health and the environment, mobility, combating various forms of inequality; all considered in relation to sustainability. Given this post is intended to produce forecasts based on scientific data, which will be understood and accepted by civil society, applicants demonstrating experience in participative research championing issues will be particularly appreciated.

Desired skills / abilities

Systemic/holistic approaches, modelling, participatory science, complex systems studies, meta-analysis, data visualisation, north-south-south cooperation.

The IRD Hiring Policy Promotes Gender Equality in the Workplace