

## Job description

<b>Position:</b> Researcher, Plastic Solutions	<b>Supervisor:</b> Technical Lead, Plastic Solutions
<b>Location:</b> Hybrid: London or Totnes 3 days per week in office	<b>Salary:</b> Commensurate with experience
<b>Contract:</b> Full-time, permanent	<b>Reports:</b> Research associates

We are looking for a self-starting, confident and highly adaptable Researcher who wants to apply their skills to help enable governments and businesses design and deliver upstream solutions that tackle the source of the plastics problem.

Drawing from experience in independently delivering research tasks and projects, your skills span desk-top research, stakeholder consultation, data analysis, using modelling tools, and writing technical reports. You love to get into data and to talk to a wide group of stakeholders and experts to gather the best available information, build knowledge and shape insights.

You want to deliver research with purpose, that provides policymakers and business leaders with practical and actionable knowledge – that empowers them to develop strategies, policies, projects, and partnerships to end plastic pollution.

### Common Seas

We are an international social enterprise designing and delivering upstream solutions to tackle the source of the plastics problem. Common Seas champions Small Island Developing States (SIDs) to enable decision-makers to set baselines, design policy and act on plastic, and advocate for a UN Plastic Treaty that works for them. [Its approach and tools](#) have received widespread recognition and provided Governments with the evidence and courage to deliver ambitious action on plastic.

We have developed a first-of-its-kind tool to enable hospitality businesses to measure and deliver plastic reductions. For more information please visit: <https://commonseas.com/>.

### Main responsibilities:

- Undertake qualitative and quantitative research using different approaches (e.g. seeking out, critically appraising and analysing data sources, designing surveys, conducting stakeholder interviews or focus groups, producing reports and graphs).
- Map and engage stakeholders and organisations who hold specialist knowledge or could be potential partners, building and managing relationships to achieve your objectives.
- Use modelling tools to understand plastic use and management within a country or supply chain.
- Produce clear and precise technical reports, as well as drawing key conclusions and helping to prepare communications for non-technical audiences, including presentations, reports and workshops.
- Monitor the work of different organisations or governments, to support continual learning and further development of tools, case studies and resources.

- Ensure research projects are delivered in a timely and systematic manner, including coordinating international associate researchers and different stakeholders.
- Business development to identify, contact, run demonstrations and support businesses to adopt our online platform to measure and reduce single-use plastics
- Identify partner opportunities and network with organisations who are developing tools for Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) and baseline setting.

### Person Specification:

*E = Essential; D= Desirable*

<b>Education and Training</b>	
• Masters level education in relevant field, or degree and equivalent professional experience	E
• 2+ years of professional experience	E
<b>Experience</b>	
• Primary and secondary data collection– both qualitative and quantitative, either as a desk-based task or through field work.	E
• Stakeholder consultations on projects relating to sustainability and the environment.	E
• Synthesising, interpreting and critically evaluating academic, technical, and grey-literature sources.	E
• Writing accurate technical reports and high-quality written materials that clearly present data, analysis and key conclusions to clients and colleagues, including senior decision makers.	E
• Independently managing a project or business process to agreed specifications and time frames.	E
• Delivering research to understand plastic waste and pollution and evaluate solutions.	D
• Material flow analysis using Python and experience using data visualization software (like Google data studio, or tableau, or powerBI, etc)	D
<b>Knowledge and skills</b>	
• Plastic waste generation, consumption, disposal, and management; and the solutions from policy and business perspective.	E
• Understanding of the above in the context of island nations and countries with less developed solid waste management infrastructure.	D
• Strong written communication skills, including reports and presentations using PowerPoint and Word.	E
• Project management, including task setting and managing the inputs of others.	E
• Data analysis using MS Excel.	E
• Understand the different tools for plastic pollution baseline setting and action planning.	D
<b>Values &amp; personal attributes</b>	
• Impressive ability to gather, synthesise, and critically evaluate data from a range of sources.	E
• Adaptability, ingenuity, initiative, and problem solving to use a variety of research methods and operate flexibly in our dynamic and agile organisation.	E
• Highly organised, with a keen attention to detail, to maintain accuracy in all work outputs.	E
• Strong work ethic, positive attitude, and passion for Common Seas' core mission.	E

### Timing:

We are looking to hire for this position as soon as possible.

### How to apply:

If you think this sounds like the role for you, please send a copy of your CV and a one-page cover letter outlining your experience in carrying out research and data analysis and availability to start through our recruitment partner Ellwood Atfield via Liam Young at [Liam.y@ellwoodatfield.com](mailto:Liam.y@ellwoodatfield.com).