HIRING: Postdoctoral Associate  
MIT Environmental Solutions Initiative

Founded in 2014, the MIT Environmental Solutions Initiative (https://esi.mit.edu) is MIT’s institute-wide and primary effort to enlist and mobilize the substantial scientific, engineering, policy, and design capacity of our community to contribute to addressing climate change and other environmental challenges. ESI pursues multidisciplinary research, education, events, and partnerships to help move society toward an environmentally and socially sustainable future.

Here & Real (https://environmentalsolutions.mit.edu/here-and-real/) is an ESI project dedicated to direct engagement with U.S. regions as they face climate change and an emerging low-carbon economy. Working with local and state leadership, community organizations, and newsrooms, we combine world-class research with local values and economic realities in order to support decision-makers and residents as they plan—and help create—a more resilient future.

The ESI is hiring a postdoctoral associate to develop research that builds on the Here and Real project and explores the intersections of an emerging low-carbon economy, rural economic opportunities, political narratives, and self-determination in hydrocarbon-producing regions of the United States. How can communities in these regions be empowered to thrive in a modern, low-carbon economy?

The Postdoctoral Associate will work with the ESI team, MIT students, and faculty advisors to co-produce research with ESI’s community partners and networks, resulting in peer reviewed publications and public-facing contributions to these communities undergoing disruptive change. This position will also liaise with the ESI team engaging with Latin American communities on nature-positive environmental justice solutions (https://environmentalsolutions.mit.edu/natural-climate-solutions-program/).

This is a one-year term appointment with a flexible start date (preferred fall/winter 2021). This position reports to the ESI Engagement Program Director and the ESI Faculty Director upon request.
Qualifications

- A PhD in Environmental Studies, Economics, Planning, Management, Geography, Anthropology, or a related field
- Knowledge of qualitative research methods; community engagement; equity/justice issues; challenges facing rural America
- Ability to work both independently and collaboratively, prioritize, adapt to rapidly shifting priorities and manage research projects from start to publication
- Is a self-motivated, strategic thinker who possesses excellent organizational and communication skills and deadline-oriented attitude, and an ability to deliver high quality results while managing multiple priorities
- Excellent written, communication, and relationship management skills that promote collaboration and cooperation
- Some U.S. travel, when allowed under MIT’s Covid-19 travel restrictions

Submit your application through MIT Careers:

For questions, contact Laur Hesse Fisher at lfi@mit.edu.