

# Research Intern: Agro-Ecology

A funded research internship to be held at the  
Bethany Land Institute, Luweero, Uganda



Call for applications

For a visit: January - June 2024

An opportunity to engage in monitoring and evaluation of an agro-ecology training and formation programme in Uganda with an integral ecology lens.



## What is this internship?

The Laudato Si' Research Institute, based at Campion Hall, University of Oxford, is looking to appoint an intern to conduct practice-oriented research at the Bethany Land Institute in the district of Luweero, Uganda, from January to June 2024.

This internship is substantially funded and represents an opportunity for graduates from any disciplinary background (natural sciences, social sciences, humanities) to engage in applied research at the intersection of agriculture, land use, religion and social transformation.

The intern will be expected to set up a research desk to monitor and evaluate agro-ecology techniques, as well as assessing the impact of formation among the student cohort. The programme will be administered and overseen by Professor Emmanuel Katongole (University of Notre Dame) as part of a funded research project.

The internship may be particularly suited for a recently graduated Masters student thinking about pursuing a doctorate in a related area of study in the year to follow.



The internship is offered by the Laudato Si' Research Institute and provides an opportunity to carry out research at the Bethany Land Institute in Uganda

**The Laudato Si' Research Institute** is inspired by Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato Si'*, which calls all people to respond to the "cry of the earth" and the "cry of the poor." The Institute carries out socio-ecological research at the University of Oxford that seeks to impact and transform real-world policy and practice.

**Bethany Land Institute** forms young people in Uganda in principles and techniques of agro-ecology inspired by the integral ecology paradigm via an integrated education programme in sustainable land use, economic entrepreneurship, and spiritual formation. It offers a two-year programme for young people who are formed in agro-ecology practices in a holistic way, and also receives overseas and Ugandan students on short-term immersion courses in agro-ecology.



## ➤ What are the tasks of the internship?

The internship will be carried out in situ at the Bethany Land Institute under the supervision of Professor Katongole (who will not be present throughout the period).

The intern will be expected to devise a research programme in the first month after arrival that will include at least the following elements:

- Set up research desk to monitor and record data pertaining to agro-ecology techniques in use at the BLI
- Develop surveys to monitor and document transformation of values and attitudes of the student cohort.
- Coordinate various research activities in relation to the Professor Katongole's *Sowing Hope* project investigating the implementation and impact of agro-ecology training and formation.
- To work with researchers at the LSRI in Oxford to integrate findings into a larger project mapping agro-ecology initiatives around the world.

## ➤ What funding is available?

A funding package for this internship is offered by the Laudato Si' Research Institute including: return flight from the UK; full board at the BLI for 6 months (accommodation and meals); ground transportation in Uganda; a course in basic local language skills (Luganda); support for visits and cultural immersion activities within Uganda; visa costs; and a small stipend. Restrictions apply to all elements of this package, for which see the website for further information. Additional costs (including for insurance, visa and living expenses) will need to be covered separately by the intern.

## ➤ What qualifications are needed?

Candidates must hold a Masters degree or higher in an area related to the work of the project; be passionate about socio-ecological change; be animated by compassion and solidarity for global socio-ecological transformation; and be sympathetic to engaging in the life of the BLI, including its programme of spiritual formation.

## ➤ What are the dates of the internship?

The advertised internship dates are early January to late June 2024. A limited degree of flexibility may be offered if circumstances require. However, the start date is fixed due to availability of Professor Katongole.



For graduates working at the intersection of science, theology and ecology, and seeking integration with a real-world site working at the intersection of science, theology and ecology, and seeking integration with real-world situations



## ➤ How can I apply?

Candidates should submit:

- A CV including academic work to date
- A letter of interest (no more than 2 pages) outlining qualifications for the role

Applications should be submitted to **harriet.david@campion.ox.ac.uk** by noon on 20 October 2023.

All applications will initially be considered by an internal panel. Shortlisted candidates will be asked to attend an online interview week commencing 30 October.

For further information, visit the website or contact Dr Séverine Deneulin at **severine.deneulin@campion.ox.ac.uk**.

[sri.campion.ox.ac.uk/BLI-internship](https://sri.campion.ox.ac.uk/BLI-internship)



“ The aim of Bethany Land Institute is the transformation of caretakers implementing practices of integral ecology according to the socio-ecological principles of Laudato Si'. We wish to impact church and society in Uganda for generations to come. This internship provides a great opportunity for a graduate student to be involved in that vision.

Professor Emmanuel Katongole, Professor of Theology & Peace Studies, University of Notre Dame, and Founder of BLI

“ This internship connects academic research into agriculture and integral ecology at the University of Oxford with a site seeking to put this methodology into practice. This is a great opportunity for graduates seeking an empirical basis and inspiration for future doctoral work.

Dr Séverine Deneulin, Director of International Development, Laudato Si' Research Institute and Associate Fellow at the Department of International Development, University of Oxford

