

Ref: 04/JT

Closing Date: 16.02.26 (close of business)

Project Title: Sustainable Laboratory Design: Local Action, Global Relevance

Supervisors: Jason Tearle, Julie Maryan and Adrian Zagrajek

Research group: Health Safety Biosafety & Environment and Training

Project Summary:

Laboratory sustainability is becoming increasingly important to ensure that facilities operate in a safe, efficient and responsible manner throughout their entire lifespan. As part of the broader sustainability agenda, the science sector is re-evaluating how we use our existing facilities, and how we design our future facilities. The Pirbright Institute, with other UK and global organisations, has joined The Laboratory Efficiency Assessment Framework (LEAF), an initiative developed by University College London (UCL) to help measure, improve and demonstrate sustainability. We are looking for an enthusiastic candidate to develop The Pirbright Institute's efforts on laboratory sustainability further.

Further Details:

The Pirbright Institute aims to be world leading not only in its science, but all aspects of operations. The project will involve collecting data to develop ways to measure progress toward the Institute's sustainability goals. It will also help assess the current culture and identify what will be needed in the future. This may also involve developing communication strategies and helping draft an Institute-wide Sustainability Best Practice Guide. In turn, this could inform the development and implementation of a sustainability training module for all staff. The Institute has good relationships both in the UK and globally, with potential for collaboration to assist in the development of a framework for guidance in sustainable laboratory design and operation in Low to Middle Income Countries (LMICs). There will be the opportunity within the broader scope of the project to focus on areas of particular interest. The Pirbright Institute operates science facilities at all levels of biological containment, thereby presenting a variety of challenges and opportunities.

References for Suggested Reading:

- Leaf Information Brochure
[LEAF - Laboratory Efficiency Assessment Framework | Sustainable UCL - UCL – University College London](https://leaf.ucl.ac.uk/)
- University of Nottingham Sustainable Laboratory Good Practice Guide
[sustainable-lab-good-practice-guide-v1.2.pdf](https://www.nottingham.ac.uk/chemistry/research/areas/sustainable-lab-good-practice-guide-v1.2.pdf)
- Freese et al (2024) The relevance of sustainable laboratory practices. Royal Society of Chemistry Sustainability **2** 1300-1336.
[BioPrevail | Biological Preparedness and Resilience through Evolution and Innovation of Laboratories](https://www.rsc.org/chemical-science/sustainability/2024/2/1300)

To Apply: See [How to apply](#). Closing date: 16.02.26 (close of business)