



Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates for the following position:

Research Centre	School of History and Geography
Post title	Research Assistant
Post duration	Fixed Term Contract up to 8 Months

Dublin City University

Dublin City University (DCU) is a leading innovative European University. It is proud to be one of the world's leading Young Universities and is among the world's top 2% globally. DCU is known as Ireland's University of Impact, with a mission to 'transform lives and societies' and focuses on addressing global challenges in collaboration with key national and international partners and stakeholders.

DCU has over 20,000 students in five faculties spread across three academic campuses in the Glasnevin-Drumcondra area of North Dublin. Thanks to its innovative approach to teaching and learning, the University offers a 'transformative student experience' that helps to develop highly sought-after graduates. DCU is currently No. 1 in Ireland for Graduate Employment Rate, and for graduate income (CSO).

As a 'People First' institution, DCU is committed to Equality, Diversity and Inclusion - a University that helps staff and students to thrive. The University is a leader in terms of its work to increase access to education and is placed in the world's Top 10 for reducing inequalities in the Times Higher Education Impact Rankings.

Background & Role

Dublin City University is seeking to appoint a researcher to work on a large research project, the overall goal of which is to assess the economic feasibility and the environmental and societal impact of implementing gravity battery energy storage (GBES) systems at disused mine sites around Ireland.

This position will focus on conducting a survey of disused mine sites to assess their condition while also looking at constraints and impacts of implementing GBES systems.

Funding has been provided by the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland to DCU to undertake this project. The successful candidate will primarily work with [Dr. Jimmy O'Keeffe](#), Assistant Professor in the School of History and Geography as well as project partners in the School of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering and DCU.

Principal Duties and Responsibilities

Reporting to the project's Principal Investigators, the Researcher will perform research based both in DCU and in the field to explore the feasibility, and the environmental and societal impact of implementing gravity battery energy storage (GBES) systems at disused mine sites around Ireland.

The role will entail a comprehensive desktop review of abandoned and unused mines around Ireland. The review will report on the type of mine, its condition, its vertical depth, structure and proximity to renewable energy systems. The review will also report on any historical or ecological conservation constraints associated with the location. Following the review, an on-site assessment of the candidate sites will then be conducted. The findings from the assessments will then be used to select the most suitable sites for system modelling based on a selection of key criteria.

The main duties and responsibilities include:

- Undertaking a comprehensive literature review of potential sites in Ireland
- Carrying out field work in potential sites around Ireland
- Conducting interviews and convening meetings with key stakeholders
- Participating in project meetings and responding to feedback on report drafts in a timely manner
- Overseeing the timely completion of project deliverables and regular progress reports
- Preparing and publishing necessary analyses in support of the reports and journal articles

Qualifications, Skills and Experience Required

- Applicants should hold a primary degree (NFQ Level 7) in an appropriate discipline
- Good data handling skills
- Strong oral and written communication skills in English
- Good organisational skills
- Excellent interpersonal skills
- Proven ability to work independently