



Research Scientist in Sub-seasonal to seasonal Prediction of African Weather and Climate

National Centre for Atmospheric Science, Department of Meteorology, University of Reading



The Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF) African Science for Weather Information and Forecasting Techniques (African-SWIFT) project is a £7.8 million programme of research and capability building funded by Research Councils UK that seeks to develop sustainable African weather forecasting capability to enhance the livelihood of African populations and improve the economies of their countries. With 5 UK partners and 10 African partners the GCRF African-SWIFT project will see 25 UK and 45 African atmospheric scientists, social scientists and operational forecasters collaborating to ensure the effective and sustainable use of forecasts to benefit African people and nations.

These two positions will contribute to and help to lead the work-package on sub-seasonal to seasonal (S2S) prediction to build research capability in the UK and Africa to inform the development of operational forecast products on the sub-seasonal timescale for decision making across a range of sectors. In collaboration with partners in the UK and Africa, the post holders will carry out research to: improve our understanding of intra-seasonal variability of African Weather and Climate and the sources of predictability on these timescales; evaluate the representation of this variability in operational sub-seasonal to seasonal prediction models; and assess the skill of these operational systems. In addition to this research, the post holders will develop and deliver training for research scientists and operational forecasters in sub-seasonal variability and prediction for Africa.

The posts will be based in the Climate Directorate of National Centre for Atmospheric Science (NCAS-Climate) hosted by the Department of Meteorology at the University of Reading, supervised by Dr Linda Hirons and Professor Steven Woolnough. You will joining a thriving Tropical Research Group within the NCAS-Climate Directorate which has around 15 post-

doctoral researchers and 15 PhD students working on wide-range of topics in tropical meteorology in collaboration with other research groups in the Department of Meteorology at the University of Reading.

The National Centre for Atmospheric Science is a Natural Environment Research Council (NERC) Research Centre to carry out world-leading research and provide underpinning national capability in atmospheric science for the UK and is based at a number of Universities around the UK. The Department of Meteorology at the University of Reading hosts around 50 NCAS staff, including a major component of the Climate Directorate. The Department of Meteorology at the University of Reading is a world leading centre for research and teaching in meteorology and atmospheric science and hosts around 200 research staff and research students carrying out research across a wide range of topics in weather and climate science