

## Application Guidelines: Project Researcher (Fixed Term Staff)

The Japan Science and Technology Agency Moonshot Research & Development Program, Moonshot Goal 8 **“Realization of a society safe from the threat of extreme winds and rains by controlling and modifying the weather by 2050”** associated Research Project **“Heavy Rainfall Control for Living Together with Isolated-Convective Rainstorms and Line-Shaped Rainbands”**, is starting the new Research Topic **“Socio-ecological evaluation of weather modification technologies using a multispecies interaction model of weather commons”** (PI Christoph Rupprecht, Ehime University) from April 2026.

This research project defines "Weather Commons" (see: <https://www.nature.com/articles/s44168-025-00302-w>) as a framework for regional collaboration that enables society to coexist with torrential rain by proactively utilizing and conserving weather resources through the emerging field of weather control technology. Recognizing that non-human organisms are not merely passively impacted by weather but actively "co-create" meteorological environments through diverse mechanisms, this project aims to establish and implement a socio-ecological evaluation methodology for weather control. This framework will integrate ELSI (Ethical, Legal, and Social Issues) and RRI (Responsible Research and Innovation) from a multispecies perspective, with a particular focus on ecological justice. Specific objectives include:

1. Identifying direct and indirect interactions between biological entities and technology through the medium of weather
2. Assessing potential and challenges for realizing weather control and weather commons
3. Examining the interactions between weather control and critical socio-ecological issues such as biodiversity conservation and public health
4. Theoretical and practical exploration of regional collaboration for and governance of multispecies weather commons

To achieve these objectives (specifically 4), we invite applications for a Project Researcher to contribute to theoretical and practical research exploring regional collaboration and co-governance with non-human stakeholders through synthesizing expert knowledge on interspecies communication, methods and practices for integrating other species into human governance and stakeholder decision making processes, through developing ways to implement diverse non-human stakeholder participation using creative methods, and to contribute to the publication of research results and management of the project.

\*Science and Technology Promotion Agency, Moonshot Proposal 8 website

<https://www.jst.go.jp/moonshot/en/program/goal8/index.html>

\*Homepage of this research and development project (in Japanese):

<https://rain-c.dpri.kyoto-u.ac.jp/>

Affiliation: Faculty of Collaborative Regional Innovation , Department of Environmental Design, Ehime University

Position title: Project Researcher

Responsibilities:

1. Conducting comprehensive reviews and synthesizing expert knowledge on interspecies communication as well as methods and practices for integrating other species into human governance and stakeholder decision making processes
2. Developing ways to implement diverse non-human stakeholder participation using creative methods
3. Publishing findings in international journals and presenting at relevant academic conferences
4. Assisting in the administration and management of the research project
5. Coordinating and collaborating with other sub-projects within the Moonshot Goal 8 program

Number of positions: 1

Qualifications: *Required*

1. A master's degree or higher (or equivalent qualification). Applicants with a PhD or equivalent qualification are also encouraged to apply.
2. Ability to independently design and undertake academic research
3. Expert knowledge and experience in one or more related fields, including but not limited to: multispecies studies, governance, speculative or more-than-human design, art/art-based research, environmental humanities, environmental sociology, science and technology studies, environmental ethics, environmental law & rights of nature, landscape architecture, geography, socio-ecological systems etc.
4. Professional level English for academic writing, conference presentations, and communication with international collaborators
5. Ability to collaborate effectively with project members to ensure smooth operations and dissemination of results

*Desirable*

1. Professional level Japanese for academic writing, conference presentations, and communication with project members and stakeholders; alternatively, strong motivation to acquire Japanese language skills at level N3 or above.
2. Experience in collaborative research across diverse academic fields

Salary: In accordance with Ehime University Salary Regulations. (Please enquire for details)

Employment Period: Starting as early as possible to March 31, 2027 (please indicate a possible starting date). Continued employment possible depending on continuation of the project and research results. For researchers, possible future employment at the level of project faculty.

- Location: Faculty of Collaborative Regional Innovation, Ehime University, Johoku Campus (Matsuyama City, Ehime Prefecture, Japan). Assistance with obtaining a work visa can be provided to successful candidates.
- Working hours: Discretionary employment system for professional work (equivalent to 7 hours and 45 minutes per day) Holidays: Saturdays, Sundays, Japanese national holidays, year-end and New Year holidays
- How to apply: Please submit the following document contents in one PDF file and provide a download URL.
- (1) Curriculum vitae
  - (2) List of research achievements
  - (3) Copies of your major publications or achievements (maximum of 3)
  - (4) Summary of research conducted so far (about 2 pages A4 size)
  - (5) Motivation for applying and aspirations for research (about 1 page A4 size)

Application Deadline: May 18, 2026.

Selection Method: After screening of documents, applicants will be selected for an interview to be held at Ehime University. Interview details will be provided to selected candidates. Applicants are responsible for their own interview-related travel expenses. Online interviews will be considered where travel is not feasible.

Applicants will be notified of selection results by e-mail.

Please submit your application documents to

Associate Professor Christoph Rupprecht  
Faculty of Collaborative Regional Innovation, Ehime University

E-mail: [rupprecht.christoph.bq@ehime-u.ac.jp](mailto:rupprecht.christoph.bq@ehime-u.ac.jp)

The subject of the email should be "[Application] Moonshot 8 Proposal 3-4 [Your Name]".

You will be contacted via e-mail within a week after we receive your application. Should you not receive an email, please contact us.

Other: Based on work performance and achievements, the appointee may be considered for transition to a Project Professor.

Contact information: Assoc. Prof. Christoph Rupprecht

[Rupprecht.christoph.bq@ehime-u.ac.jp](mailto:Rupprecht.christoph.bq@ehime-u.ac.jp)

3 Bunkyo-cho, Matsuyama City, Ehime 790-8577, Japan

Faculty of Collaborative Regional Innovation, Ehime University