

Stanford | Center for Ocean Solutions

Position Announcement Postdoctoral Fellow for Climate and Blue Food

The [Stanford Center for Ocean Solutions](#) (COS) catalyzes research, innovation, and action to improve the health of the oceans for the people who depend on them the most. A part of the [Woods Institute for the Environment](#) at the [Stanford Doerr School of Sustainability](#), COS capitalizes on Stanford's broad expertise in ocean science and in the many other disciplines crucial to developing ocean solutions including engineering, computer science, political science, design, and business. Our core team of researchers and fellows partner with other research institutions, national and international non-governmental organizations, businesses and governments, as well as established and emerging leaders in the data revolution.

Blue foods support the health and livelihoods of billions of people worldwide. Yet climate change threatens how much blue food wild fisheries and aquaculture can supply. In a warming world, there are multiple hazards: marine fisheries, for instance, must contend with shifting species distributions, shellfish production with ocean acidification, and inland fisheries with prolonged droughts that limit freshwater availability. By undermining production capacity, climate change compromises blue food's contributions to economic and food security. However, sustainably managed blue foods can help achieve global goals for climate change, land, water, and biodiversity. Realizing the potential of blue foods will require action to address these threats and build resilience of fisheries and aquaculture to future shocks.

We are seeking a one-year, full-time, Postdoctoral Fellow—to be mentored by Jim Leape, co-director of the Stanford Center for Ocean Solutions—who is interested in both research and stakeholder engagement, particularly with civil society and government to inform policy. This opportunity is crafted for early career scholars with a strong interest in food systems, climate change, sustainability science, law and policy as well as the important interactions therein. The fellowship offers a hands-on opportunity to apply scientific skills and expertise to address urgent and intensifying policy challenges throughout the world. This work will build on Stanford's continued track record of engagement on global sustainability issues and deepen partnerships with policy stakeholders.

In research, the Fellow will use quantitative and qualitative methods to: (1) analyze how climate change may impact blue foods, (2) identify how blue food management can support climate-resilient food systems, (3) determine how blue foods can be effectively integrated into national climate policies and adaptation strategies, and (4) highlight knowledge and policy gaps.

In policy work, the Fellow will play a lead role in managing COS's efforts at the intersection of climate change and blue food research and engagement. The Fellow will engage with external policy partners and stakeholders at the national, regional, and global scales to ensure that project activities are as relevant as possible for active policy processes, engaging directly in such processes when appropriate.

Key Responsibilities

- Conduct relevant research regarding the role of climate change impacts on blue foods as well as the climate impacts of blue foods;
- Collaborate with a range of partners, including the Aquatic Blue Food Coalition, to identify potential management or policy measures to support climate-resilient food systems;
- Co-organize meetings that bring together leading experts, stakeholders, and actors to synthesize findings and draw out key policy messages;
- Engage blue food partners in business, government, NGOs, and intergovernmental organizations to identify and develop solutions, and work with partners on implementation.

Fellowship applicants should have:

- Received a Ph.D., J.D., or M.B.A., in a related field in the last three years with expertise in climate and food systems, including but not limited to: policy, law, science, nutrition, economics, technology, or data analysis;
- Demonstrated interest and experience in policy engagement;
- Strong academic credentials, excellent writing and editing abilities, interpersonal and teamwork skills, and a collaborative spirit;
- Direct experience in project management and execution; including task management and collaborative engagement with partners distributed across the globe, as well as the ability to manage multiple projects simultaneously;
- A commitment to promoting equity, diversity, and inclusion within the workplace and a track record of community engagement and service;
- Strong organizational skills, attention to detail, self-motivation, and aptitude for working with diverse partners and policy stakeholders on rapidly evolving processes;
- Sound judgment and exceptional ethical standards in serving as a trusted source for evidence-based analysis and policy engagement;
- Exemplary written and verbal communication skills; fluency in English.

Additional Details

This position is for a one-year fixed term, with the potential to extend based on funding availability. This position will require in-person presence on the Stanford campus for meetings with COS staff and partners. Hybrid work arrangements may be negotiable based on circumstances. Salary is based on a formula that is competitive with similar positions, and Stanford provides a generous benefits package.

Applicants should submit a cover letter summarizing their interest in the position and relevant experience, a CV, a writing sample, and contact information for three references to applywithcos@stanford.edu with the subject line “Postdoc App: Climate & Blue Foods.” Applications should be submitted as soon as possible and will be considered on a rolling basis until the position is filled. Applicants must be available to start no later than January 2024.

Stanford is an equal employment opportunity and affirmative action employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability, protected veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by law. Consistent with its obligations under the law, Stanford University will provide reasonable accommodation to any employee with a disability who requires accommodation to perform the essential functions of his or her job.

Stanford University seeks to hire the best talent and to promote a safe and secure environment for all members of the university community and its property. To that end, new staff hires must successfully pass a background check prior to starting work at Stanford University.