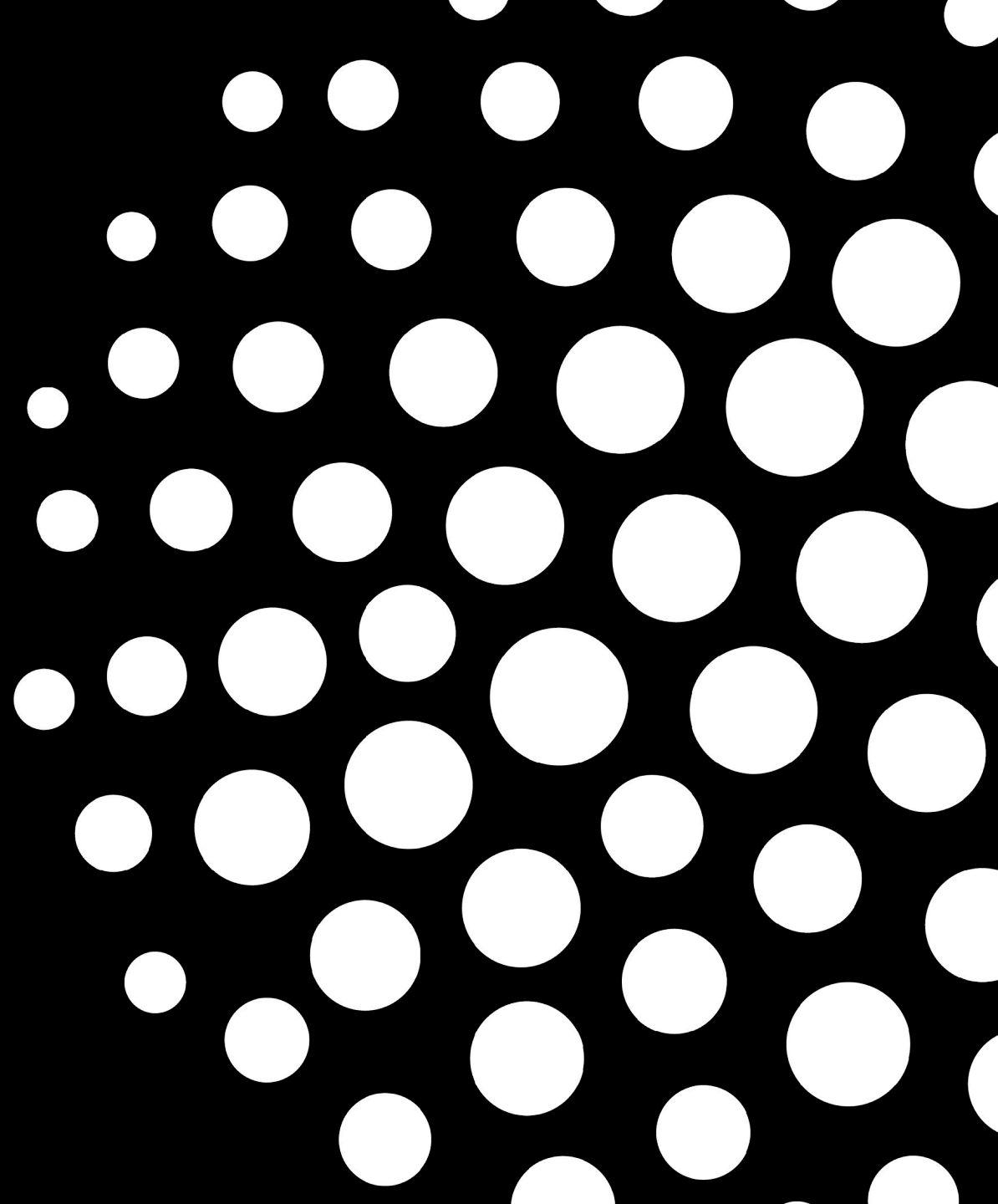


Nature Opportunities - Research Associate (x2) Nature Positive Programme

July 2026



Welcome to Global Canopy

We are so pleased you found us. Global Canopy is an ambitious, creative and dynamic not-for-profit targeting the market forces destroying nature.

Our special focus is on ending global deforestation, most of which is driven by agricultural expansion for commodities like beef, soy and palm oil that end up in products we all use every day.

In fact, our research shows that \$6 *trillion* in private finance each year is driving this destruction – including 20% of the money that we all put into our pensions.

This is a major driver of climate change, of biodiversity loss and of human rights abuses. To tackle this we deliver radical transparency through our award-winning data platforms, detailing how consumer markets are linked to nature loss.

We enable major companies, investors and governments to take positive action, and we help campaigning organisations and investigative journalists shine a light on those not doing

enough. And we help policymakers to design laws that make it mandatory for the private sector to change.

We are now growing rapidly as an organisation – expanding our work and teams in key geographies like Brazil and South East Asia. And we are deepening our relationships with major investor networks as we redouble work to remove deforestation and nature-related impacts from lending and investment portfolios worldwide.

As part of our team, you will be at the heart of global efforts to tackle the intertwined climate and nature crises. And you will find yourself surrounded by engaged, positive and committed colleagues determined to make a difference.

Please join us, this is urgent.

Niki Mardas, Executive Director



About Global Canopy

Global Canopy is a data-driven not for profit delivering real transparency and accountability for market impacts on nature and people. Our special focus is on ending deforestation – an essential step in achieving urgent global goals on climate, nature and human rights.

We deliver our work via three main strategies:

1. on **open data** (including via major global data platforms like [Trase](#), [Forest 500](#), [Forest IQ](#), and [ENCORE](#));
2. on creating stronger **voluntary and compliance frameworks** to address nature loss (we are a founding partner of the [Taskforce for Nature-related Financial Disclosures](#));
3. and on accelerating **accountability and action by the finance sector** towards deforestation-free portfolios.

Our platforms, data and insights are relied upon by Fortune 500 companies, major financial institutions, national and regional governments, and some of the most effective campaigning organisations worldwide.

We work globally, with a focus on both forested regions (particularly across Latin America and South East Asia), and major consumer and financial markets (with a focus on Europe, the US, Singapore and China).

We have a distributed team of around 70 people worldwide, with a main office in Oxford in the UK, and a growing regional hub in Brazil. We work via close and deep partnerships, including with institutions like the Stockholm Environment Institute, the UN Climate Change High-Level Champions, UNEP Finance Initiative, the World Conservation Monitoring Centre, Oxford University and many many others.

Nature Positive Programme

Shifting financial flows from enabling nature destruction towards activities that credibly support nature protection and restoration is crucial.

Global Canopy is working to enable the mobilisation of investment at scale into activities that deliver positive outcomes for nature and people, and to reverse the current imbalance, where financial flows to nature-destroying activities sit at USD7 trillion while financial flows towards Nature-based Solutions remain at USD230 billion. Turning this tide requires both reducing financial flows to nature-negative activities and significantly scaling up finance for activities that deliver for nature and people.

Many investors lack clarity on how to make this shift. Building on the success of [*The Little Book of Nature Business*](#), Global Canopy is developing a Nature-Positive Transitions programme that will deliver the evidence, analysis, innovation and energy to mobilise investors, especially asset owners, to support this financial shift.

30:1

**is the ratio in favour of nature
destroying investments versus
Nature-based Solutions**

We are a new, exciting and extremely ambitious programme within Global Canopy and we work closely with likeminded partners, including Oxford University, UNEP Finance Initiative, and UNEP's State of Finance for Nature initiative.

We also work closely with other teams across Global Canopy, bringing the organisation's longstanding expertise and market-leading data for finance and corporate supply chains, and nature, deforestation and human rights impacts.

The role: overview

Our very first project under the Nature-Positive Programme, in partnership with the Nature Positive Hub at the University of Oxford, focuses on building the data infrastructure to enable credibility and comparability in assessing nature-related opportunities. To ensure we deliver the data infrastructure that enables credibility and comparability across emerging nature investing opportunities for the financial sector, we are establishing a data infrastructure workstream to define the criteria to assess the potential nature contributions from these opportunities, their risk-adjusted returns, their investability potential and how they can match the mandates of diverse asset owners.

We are seeking **two** Research Associates with demonstrably strong research and analytical skills and experience in the fields of nature or biodiversity finance who will directly contribute to this data infrastructure workstream.



A nighttime photograph of the Singapore skyline, featuring several illuminated skyscrapers like the UBS Tower and the OCBC Tower. A large pink circle is overlaid on the right side of the image, containing white text.

\$220bn

was spent to protect
nature
in 2023

The role: responsibilities

Research and database development (70%)

- Work with partners and colleagues to define methodologies, relevant frameworks, and criteria for assessing the contribution to nature and the risk-adjusted returns of nature-investing opportunities, with a focus on scaling these opportunities.
- Work with colleagues and partners to design and develop a data repository of nature-related investment opportunities, defining the models, schemas and conventions that enable multiple researchers to record opportunities consistently and comparably.
- Identify and map nature-related investment opportunities across sectors against the defined criteria.
- Conduct interviews with potential investees and investors (including asset owners) for selected nature-related investment opportunities.
- Manage delivery of research in line with project timetable, ensuring alignment with the overall project ambition and strategic direction.

Content and engagement (20%)

- Draft case studies and reports, synthesising the analysis and lessons from the project with the Nature Finance Content Lead and project partners.
- Maintain ongoing technical engagement with partners at the University of Oxford and other key technical contributors
- Coordinate external consultations on the project's technical aspects, in collaboration with partners and the project's engagement associate.
- Support in the organisation of events that raise awareness and amplify project results.

Strategy and Fundraising (10%)

- Contribute to monitoring, evaluation and learning, including donor reporting.
- Contribute to fundraising efforts and the ongoing development of the nature-positive strategy.

About you

To be successful in the role, these are the things that will matter most:

- Applied environmental research skills and experience, particularly with nature impact and assessments
- Deep understanding of financial analytics
- Data collection and data modelling experience with a view to inform decision-making
- Programmatic data analysis skills (strong preference for Python using pandas) to clean, structure and analyse complex datasets, compute derived metrics, and produce clear summaries and visualisations for reports and case studies
- Experience delivering collaborative projects with technical components and with external partners
- Demonstrable project management experience, with capacity to independently manage work according to agreed project timelines and to a high standard

Essential behavioural competencies:

- Demonstrable motivation and alignment with the project's vision and mission, as well as Global Canopy's strategy
- Proactive and self-motivated
- A team player who takes ownership of their own work, listens to feedback and supports their colleagues' contributions
- Honesty, curiosity and resilience

Desirable

- Experience building strong data models within spreadsheets or low/no code tools, and/or relational database experience, ideally with PostgreSQL.
- Coding skills (ideally Python) to support and streamline the data work
- Experience with social impact analysis
- Familiarity with the nexus between human rights and nature-related issues.



Our values

As an organisation committed to achieving system-wide change, we operate in a challenging environment. Our organisational values help guide our ways of working and keep us accountable to these standards:

Entrepreneurial – We develop bold new ideas to catalyse system wide change.

Impactful – We learn from what works, hold ourselves and others accountable and work in collaboration with others.

Inclusive – We celebrate diversity, value teamwork and support individuals to fulfil their potential.

Clear – We listen actively, think critically and communicate with clarity.



Salary & benefits

Salary

£50,000 full time equivalent

This role sits within Band D on Global Canopy's remuneration framework.

Nature of contract

x2 full time, permanent contracts. We are a flexible employer and welcome candidates wishing to work flexibly.

Base

Our office is in Oxford, with flexible home-working arrangements in place. Attendance at the office will be expected on a monthly basis. We are willing to support UK visa sponsorship for the successful candidates.

Holidays

36 days (including bank/public holidays) for discretionary use across the annual leave year. Option to purchase up to an additional 5 days or equivalent of one week's leave.

Pension

Employer pension contribution of 8%

Healthcare cashback plan

Covering dental fees, eye-care, wellbeing, physiotherapy, chiropody and much more

Group Life Assurance

Paying a lump sum of 3 times annual salary

Group Income Protection

Paying 75% of annual salary for up to 2 years (for long term sickness)

Employee Assistance Programme

Which provides free, confidential advice on personal and legal matters

Other

Huge range of discounts and cashback deals at gyms, restaurants, holidays, and much more

How to apply

To apply for the position, please use this [link](#) and submit an up-to date CV and answers to the following three questions (please limit your answers to no more than 150 words each):

- Describe a time when you used code to clean, reshape, combine or otherwise modify datasets to prepare them for analysis. What was messy or difficult about the raw data, what did your code do, and how did you verify the result was correct?
- Describe a time when you assessed the environmental benefits and/or the financial performance of an investment that presented itself as potentially beneficial to nature. What was your thought/analysis process, what data did you use, and what difficulties did you encounter in conducting the analysis? How did you address them?
- Why is this role at Global Canopy an attractive opportunity at this point in your career?

The closing date for applications is **Monday, 10 August 2026 at 9am BST**. Early application encouraged. We may close applications early if suitable candidates are identified.

First round interview calls are provisionally planned for **21 and 24 August** and will be conducted remotely via a video call.

Those successful in the first round will then be invited to complete an assessed exercise which will determine who we invite for a final interview.

Final interviews will be held via video call and are tentatively scheduled for **w/c 7 September**.

Additional information

All candidates are asked to complete an anonymous diversity monitoring form when they apply.

At Global Canopy, we value diversity and inclusion. You can read our diversity statement on our [website](#). We encourage applications from all backgrounds and are committed to having a team with a diverse set of skills, experiences and abilities.

Global Canopy works on issues of global deforestation. We are particularly interested in strengthening our team to include those with a background from forest regions such as Latin America and South East Asia. We would welcome applications from people from these regions.

If you have any questions about the position, then please contact: hr@globalcanopy.org.

Applicant data will be managed in accordance with the candidate privacy policy available on our [website](#).



Thank you

HR Team

hr@globalcanopy.org

Find out more at globalcanopy.org