



Job Description: Head of Research (Map of Agriculture)

Company background

The Map of Agriculture is an exciting technology company who are searching for a Head of Research to join its rapidly growing and international team. The Map of Agriculture wishes to further improve the insights and value that it generates from the rich sources of data to which it has access. The successful candidate will be working in a highly innovative environment as the company builds out services and solutions that promise to be pathbreaking in the sector.

Role

The Head of Research will lead the company's research function. He or she will work with the other members of the Intel Division to create insight by utilising the different types of data available. These insights are key to the success of the Map of Agriculture, and the person occupying the role will have significant input into the formulation and implementation of relevant company strategy.

In particular the successful candidate will:

- lead a team who will create models and analyses using different types of data. He or she will also be responsible for overseeing the communication of this information using visualisations which can be embedded in products and solutions.
- collaborate closely with the semantics team who are primarily responsible for organising and categorising data
- collaborate closely with the market research teams in different countries and manage market research projects as appropriate
- interact with the product development teams to understand the needs of farmers and other clients and how they can be best met
- be responsible for the Research Group budget and be responsible for its success on the agreed KPIs
- lead collaboration with academic, corporate and non-profit research partners

Candidate Profile

Required skills and/or experience

- a passion to apply modern research methods to the agricultural sector
- a strong academic background (e.g. Masters or Doctorate) in a related discipline such as Agricultural Economics or Land Economy
- strong quantitative and visualisation skills
- ability to communicate and collaborate with colleagues, clients and other researchers

Desired skills and/or experience

- Understanding of the microeconomics of farming businesses
- Experience of the agricultural supply and value chains and agricultural finance
- Market research experience



- Data science experience (IPython or similar, predictive analytics, modelling, machine learning, semantics, inferencing, block-chains, visualisations)
- Experience of open data and the Semantic Web
- Strong network in the farming industry, academia, government, and non-profits
- Experience with both geospatial (including satellite and drone) and aspatial information
- Experience of working in a relevant organisation (e.g. company, university, research institute)
- A track record of successful research grant applications and project implementations
- International experience

Reporting Lines

- The Head of Research will report to the Head of the Intelligence Division based in Oxfordshire
- The Head of Research would initially have three data scientists reporting to them: one in Oxfordshire, one in Suffolk, one in Argentina.
- It is expected that as the Map of Agriculture expands the Research Group will grow strongly. The successful candidate will be primarily responsible for the recruitment of this growing team

Location and Travel

The position will be in the UK. Depending on the situation and preference of the candidate (and the needs of the company) the successful candidate could be based in either the company's Oxfordshire or in the Suffolk offices. The position will involve elements of flexitime and some ability to work from home - in agreement with the manager.

The position will involve different types of travel, such as to company subsidiaries, clients, external partners, and conferences and similar events. Travel within Europe will be coach class. That internationally will be economy except when "next day" client commitments are expected, in which case premium economy. This is the travel policy for all company staff.

Regular visits to the company's other UK office will be desirable. Such visits will be approximately fortnightly through to monthly, depending on need. Similarly, it will be important to develop close linkages to the company's international subsidiaries – currently in Argentina and New Zealand. Such international visits will be coordinated closely with the successful candidate, and are likely to be approximately once per year.

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