



ALMA MATER STUDIORUM
UNIVERSITA DI BOLOGNA
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS



Position announcement

Pre-doc researcher in ‘Climate-related expectations and low-carbon investment behaviour’

The Department of Economics of the University of Bologna is currently inviting applications for a pre-doc researcher position to work on ‘Climate-related beliefs, investment behaviour and low-carbon transition dynamics’.

Job description

The postholder will contribute to studying how climate-related expectations/beliefs/narratives can affect investment decision-making and their implications on the low-carbon transition dynamics. Activities will be aimed at: i) capturing heterogeneous transition-related expectations and dynamic investment behaviour drivers (mainly via laboratory/online incentivised experiments); ii) exploring transition pathways via analytical/numerical dynamic models incorporating behavioural features; iii) studying the policy/institutional strategies to anchor transition-related expectations as desired (e.g. a ‘carbon central bank’). The postholder will assist the development of these activities, under the supervision and in collaboration with the rest of the SMOOTH team.

The position will last one year, with possibility of renewal. The position will need to be filled by July 2023. Earlier starting dates can be discussed. The gross annual salary is 20,000€. The salary is exempt of taxation but subject to pension contributions. No teaching is expected. We expect the postholder to be based in Bologna. The knowledge of the Italian language is welcome but not a prerequisite.

Job qualifications and requirements

The features of the ideal candidate include:

- A Master degree in Economics, Finance, Behavioural Sciences, Political Science or any other field relevant to the call (or being close to completion).
- Knowledge of the research literature in climate/environmental economics, behavioural economics/finance or monetary/financial economics; preferably at the intersection among them.
- Experience in designing and performing online/laboratory experiments; as well as other methodological approaches to capture beliefs and behavioural drivers (e.g. surveys, discrete choice experiments).
- Experience in developing analytical and numerical dynamic models, of any methodological approach, able to incorporate behavioural dimensions.
- Experience in employing statistical and econometric techniques for economic analysis.

- Experience in employing programming software for economic and econometric analysis (e.g. Matlab, R, Python, Stata and similar software).
- Experience with working as part of a project team.
- International work and study experience.
- Excellent ability in writing and speaking in English.

SMOOTH project

The postholder will participate to the activities of the SMOOTH research project (ERC Starting Grant 853050). The aim of SMOOTH is to study the dynamic links between macro-financial systems and the transition to a low-carbon society, and to contribute to the design of policies directed at achieving a rapid and smooth decarbonisation. The project is composed of three main areas of work: i) the study of how expectations, sentiments and cognitive biases affect the carbon intensity of physical and financial investments; ii) the analysis of drivers, transmission channels and macro-financial impacts of transition risks, with a focus on physical and financial stranding risks; iii) the study of the governance and political economy implications of a low-carbon transition, with a focus on the role of central banks and financial regulators. SMOOTH started in September 2020 and will last five years. It is conducted by an international interdisciplinary research team at the Department of Economics of the University of Bologna, in collaboration with the Milano-based RFF-CMCC European Institute on Economics and the Environment. For more information on the project, please visit: <https://site.unibo.it/smooth/en>.

University of Bologna

The [University of Bologna](#) (UniBo) is the oldest university in the world and regularly features among the top international academic institutions. With 33 departments and a population of 85,000 students from Italy and abroad, it is among the largest universities in Europe. Its main campus is based in Bologna, a vibrant city with a high quality of life and world-class social services. Bologna has a large airport and is connected to the high-speed railway network. The [Department of Economics](#) (DSE) of UniBo is a leading academic institution in several fields of economic research, with a large and expanding environmental economics cluster. The DSE is also a founding member of the Research Institute on Global Challenges and Climate Change (Alma Climate). Both UniBo's [International Desk](#) and Emilia-Romagna region service [it-ER](#) offer information and support to incoming international students and staff.

Contacts: For all enquiries, please write to emanuele.campiglio@unibo.it.