Equity and Diversity Advisory Group

Volunteer members

We are seeking two people to join our volunteer Equity and Diversity Advisory Group.

This is an opportunity to support, challenge and inspire the British Ecological Society (BES) ensuring that inclusivity remains an integral part of all that we do and is embedded across all areas of the Society’s strategic planning.
About the Equity and Diversity Advisory Group

The remit of Equity and Diversity Advisory Group (EDAG) is to develop and oversee the delivery of the Society’s equity and inclusion strategy.

Inclusivity is core to our values as a society. The group will ensure that inclusivity remains an integral part of all that we do and is embedded across all areas of the Society’s strategic planning.

EDAG collaborates closely with the staff led Equity Champions Group (ECG) whose remit is to implement and deliver the strategic plan, managing the operational systems and processes that are required.

EDAG is chaired by the President of the Society, supported by the Director of Communities and Inclusion and is attended by the Chief Executive. The Group reports directly to the Board of Trustees in March each year, drafting an annual report on equity and inclusion work across the Society.
Who we’re looking for

We welcome applications from all members regardless of their career stage. We also want to keep a balance of people in our group, so we are looking for people who have experience in one or more of the following areas:

- Direct experience or an understanding of the barriers encountered by ecologists from lower and middle income countries.
- Direct experience or an understanding of factors that contribute to exclusion of and barriers for marginalised communities within the UK and internationally.
- Have an interest or experience in how equity is embedded within environmental policy making, e.g. how do we support a just transition.

We are also interested in hearing from early career ecologists, people from the Global Majority, Indigenous peoples and people working in areas other than universities, e.g. charities and environmental NGOs.

The BES recognises the significance of using lived experience for a role of this nature, we strive to ensure that our opportunities are supported and we provide a safe space in which to volunteer.
Reasons to get involved

- Opportunities to influence the direction and priorities across the Society, with the ability to input ideas which can shape the strategy and initiatives undertaken.
- Enhance your skills and professional development by serving on a committee.
- Grow your professional network by working alongside likeminded ecologists.
- Exposure to governance and decision making within the BES, helping you build an understanding of how the Society operates.

Time involved

- The Group meets two times a year online, it may include occasional task and finish groups as required.
- Members can be based anywhere in the world and can join meetings via Zoom or Microsoft teams. Meetings will usually take place within UK business hours 12.30-15.30 but please contact us if this creates a barrier to you getting involved.
- If travel is required for activities, the BES will reimburse out of pocket travel expenses.
- New members of the Group will appointed for an initial three years, the maximum length of involvement is two terms.
How to apply

Please click the green button ‘Apply for this job’ via our recruitment portal to submit:

- **Your CV - no more than 2 x A4 sides**

- **A covering letter** - no more than 1x A4 side answering the following questions:

  1. Why are you interested in this role and what would you like to get out of the experience? (300 words maximum)
  2. What would you hope to achieve during your term of 3 years? (300 words maximum)

We ask these questions because we’re interested in hearing your reasons for taking part and how we could support you to get the most of the opportunity, along with what you’ll add to our Group.

- **Your equality and diversity information** - this voluntary information helps us to assess the diversity of our recruitment and further improve processes in the future. It is not considered as part of the shortlisting process and is used to review our overall volunteer recruitment only.
Key Dates

Closing date: Please apply by 10 March 2024.

We will review your answers as part of your application and we may reach out to ask follow on questions if we need, this may be by email or a telephone/video call.

We will confirm applications by the end of March 2024.

If you have questions about this role or would like more information, please contact us and we will be happy to answer your questions. Please contact Katie Weston, Volunteer Officer on email katiew@britishecologicalsociety.org

Access

If you require access support, please contact Katie Weston (They/Them) Volunteer Officer via email at katiew@britishecological.org or via phone on +44 20 3994 8282