Job Description RA (SIS/ Business & financial planning)

SIS is an ERC-funded Proof of Concept grant which is providing the bedrock for scaling the SHARE IT Service (SIS) sustainability impact assessment innovation platform (www.shareit.sharecity.ie). The project is looking for a Research Assistant with skills in business models and financial planning with expertise in non-mainstream business models appropriate for sustainability-focused businesses. The key tasks of the role are:

- to explore a) different business models beyond mainstream for-profit (e.g. social enterprise, charity, not-for-profit, B2 corp etc.) and b) alternative financing mechanisms (e.g., crowdfunding, philanthropy, impact investing and social financing funds) for sustainably scaling out SIS activities. They will draft and compare the advantages and disadvantages of the different models across European countries and propose a preferred business model for SIS for analysis.
- to identify training materials and opportunities for upskilling SIS team in business model planning for the proposed model and financing mechanisms.
- to develop a detailed cost assessment of delivering the three SIS services, consisting of staff costs for delivering consultancy services and costs related to the secure maintenance and management of the platform. Revenue streams to meet these costs and ensure further development of SIS will be investigated through interviews with organisations that a) offer SIA services b) work with local governments to deliver consultancy services and c) work with food retailers to provide add-on services to their food retail operations.
- To organise three sharing labs (one per month) with experts and the SIS team, focused on the potential business models and financial mechanisms identified in the desk research
- Draft a market research questionnaire to be rolled out to policy makers and potential funders or donors who may be interested in financially supporting SIS

The role is for three months from 1st October until 31st December 2022 and will be based in the Department of Geography, Trinity College Dublin.

The position will be offered on the IUA Research Assistant Scale up to Point 13 or Postdoctoral scale up to Point 1, according to experience.

Applications should include in one document: A cover letter setting out expertise and motivations for application and a CV including details of two referees who will be contacted after interviews of the successful candidates. Informal queries and formal applications should be emailed to professor Anna Davies: daviesa@tcd.ie.

The deadline for applications is midday (12 noon) 1st September 2022