

Equipped for Success

David Roberts, NERC Research Careers Valuing Nature Business Impact School 7th March 2017



Why does NERC support training?

"To sustain the flow of top talent and skills for UK science, business and government"





What do environmental researchers do?

- Research in academia
- Research outside of academia
- Public sector
- Private sector
- Third sector/Charity
- Anything!

Training in environmental research does not restrict you to being an environmental researcher.



Researcher for life?

Careers outside science Non-university Research (industry, government etc.) 17% 53% 26.5% 47% 30% 0.45% 3.5% Early Career Permanent Professor Research Staff Research

Royal Society, The Scientific Century: securing our future prosperity, 2010.

Figure 1.6 Careers in and outside science

What does a modern environmental researcher need?

- Technical research skills
- Understanding of the role of research in informing policy
- The role of research within the UK economy
- Broader transferable skills, such as presentation skills, writing, project management, etc.
- Appreciation of the wide applications of their talents.



How does NERC address these skills needs?

- Doctoral programmes (DTPs and CDTs)
- Focussed training awards (CDTs & CASE)
- Non-PhD skills training programmes





2017 Request for Evidence of training priority

- Open to anyone until April 12th
- Will inform Centre for Doctoral Training topics as well as other training schemes
- Spread the word!







Thank you

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