PhD Project title
Sustainability via (cross-border) mergers and acquisitions

Supervisors
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Research centre
CREED

Project description
Global trends related to sustainability in terms of waste management, decreasing CO2 emissions, renewable energy and clean technology (or cleantech) are adding to pressure of not only MNEs but also SMEs. Digitalization and technological innovations enable companies from more traditional, heavy industries such as mining, steel and energy to meet the new regulations and requirements. While MNEs have resources, they might lack innovative technologies. SMEs might have the innovations required but lack the resources to internationalize. Mergers and acquisitions (M&As) provide a unique way for organizations to grow and internationalize, but also a unique, strategic tool to shift the business towards new directions. M&As can be a channel to facilitate the transition to carbon-free economies and sustainable societies. The research design is likely to involve qualitative methods and cross-case analysis across different industries investing in e.g. clean technology or other technologies enabling the transition to more sustainable business.

PhD candidate profile
The PhD candidate should meet the following requirements:

- Be enthusiastic, well-organised and have good inter-personal skills.
- High motivation and a keen interest in the research area.
- A first degree that is equivalent to a UK classification of upper second class honours or above. In addition, a good masters level qualification of merit or above, with a minimum of 60 per cent in the dissertation, research project element or equivalent experience. We also accept an MBA from an accredited school where the candidate can demonstrate that a significant research element has been undertaken. For further information on entry requirements, please see: http://www.sheffield.ac.uk/management/study/researchdegrees/howtoapply

Duration and start dates
Full or part time study for 3 or 6 years is available, and remote location study is also possible. We have two start dates a year for PhD students. Our preferred start date is 1 October, however we do recognise that not everyone will be able to commence studies at that time, so we also offer a second start date of 1 February. If you are unable to start in October or February, it may be also possible to start your PhD at a different time of the year.

Closing date for applications
Applications will be considered until a suitable candidate has been identified. For the 1 October start date, a full application must have been received by 15 July. For 1 February start date, a full application must have been received by 15 November.

How to apply
See [http://www.sheffield.ac.uk/management/study/researchdegrees/howtoapply](http://www.sheffield.ac.uk/management/study/researchdegrees/howtoapply) for full details of how to apply.

For an informal discussion about this opportunity, please contact Melanie Hassett at melanie.hassett@sheffield.ac.uk