

POST-DOCTORAL RESEARCH FELLOW

The Health Economics and HIV and AIDS Research Division (HEARD), UKZN, South Africa is recruiting a post-doctoral researcher to work on joint research projects with the Centre de Recherches Sociologiques et Politiques de Paris (CRESPPA), France.

These projects bring together expertise and networks of two recognised international research centres. **HEARD** is an interdisciplinary social science research institute based at the University of KwaZulu-Natal and has extensive experience in conducting applied research amongst vulnerable populations in East and Southern Africa with a particular focus on sexual and reproductive health and rights. **CRESPPA**, affiliated to the Université Paris 8, Nanterre University and the CNRS, is one of the major social science research centres in France and has a long history of leading the research agenda on issues of gender equality. The successful applicant will be expected to engage in **1-year training fellowships** under the supervision of mentors and the Principal Investigators of the research project.

POSITION

POST-DOCTORAL RESEARCHER (AWASA Project)

Type: One (1) Year Fixed Term Post-Doctoral Scholarship (Renewal subject to performance & funding availability)

Location: University of KwaZulu-Natal, Durban, South Africa

The Health Economics and HIV and Aids Research Division (HEARD) and the Centre for Sociological and Political Research (CRESPPA) have recently launched a 4-year joint research programme titled: Advancing women's access to safe abortion through coalition building and strengthening strategic advocacy in sub-Saharan Africa (AWASA).

The AWASA research project, funded by the French National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS), aims to foster normative change by building linkages and capacities and creating real coalitions involving researchers, civil society, decision makers and journalists to advocate strategically on Termination of Pregnancy (TOP) law reform, development of comprehensive abortion care policy and implementation of existing related policy to the fullest extent of the law. It is intended that the results of the project have a direct impact on the effectiveness of advocacy and related activities to promote and ensure access to safe abortion in each of our target countries to the fullest extent of the law. Specifically, the research will build coalitions of actors working to ensure access to safe abortion; build

capacities of civil society to locate good scientific evidence and transform this into advocacy tools; build the capacity of journalists to report on abortion using evidence-based information; and build local and regional networks of parliamentarians and other decision makers who can work together to advocate for access to safe abortion across the regions.

The project includes Anglophone and Francophone research partners and will be carried out in Côte d'Ivoire, Madagascar, Malawi, Republic of Tanzania, Senegal, and Zambia. The successful candidate will have opportunity to travel between France and South Africa and to different study countries where annual workshops will be held.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

- A doctoral degree in a relevant social sciences discipline obtained in the past five (5) years, with a strong background in sexual and reproductive health and rights and/or gender studies
- Strong interest in intersectional feminist analysis and gender studies.
- Strong analytical and writing skills in English, demonstrated through peer-reviewed journal articles. Fluency in French would be an advantage.
- Strong presentation skills, demonstrated through presentation of papers at conferences.
- Keen to work collaboratively with other academics, NGO's, students and target group organisations.
- Ability to develop networks and to engage with a range of stakeholders.
- Be based at HEARD for the duration of the scholarship.
- All candidates from Sub-Saharan Africa will be considered but preference will be given to suitably qualified South African citizens or permanent residents.

APPLICATIONS & QUERIES

To apply to either of these Post-doctoral opportunities, please submit the following as part of your application

1. Closing date: Friday, 28th June 2024
2. A cover letter by the candidate motivating suitability to the position available
3. A one-page summary outlining your research interest and how this opportunity may advance your future professional trajectory
4. A full curriculum vitae, including all conference attendance, publications and other scholarly research output
5. All qualification certificates and academic transcripts
6. A copy of ID or passport, copy of visa etc.
7. Names and contact details of at least two referees who have supervised or worked with you and can speak about their experience and skills
8. Email enquiries and application to Mrs Robyn-Lee Wagner, heardhr@ukzn.ac.za, 031 260 7873. Please use the subject heading: **Application for Postdoctoral Fellowship: AWASA project** *Please note: Incomplete and/or late applications will not be considered. Postdoctoral scholarships are awarded on a competitive basis, considering the applicant's academic achievements.*